

Hello,
I was late for chat last night and everyone was gone.
Sure missed you.
Received a snail mail from Dan Swartz. Dan cannot chat
because he does not get home from work till midnight
eastern. Lets start a late chat at 0030 eastern, 2130
Pacific time. Some of us late owls on the east coast
may show up there instead of or in addition to the 10pm
chat. Officially we will start this on Monday, but
heck you can check in tonight too!
Doug Bell has been hard at work and found
papermoneyworld a better chat module. It is slightly
harder to set up, but is MUCH better. We will target a
week from Monday as changeover to the new chat module,
but of course we need to have your ideas on it.
Did you notice that I numbered this message? Got to
thinking that since I am sending them so regularly, I
might as well start numbering them. I guess that there
is certain justice in "starting" on the infamous April
15th!
Received a few comments on my essay about condition
and value. Would like some more feedback. Will send
some more text tomorrow or the next day.
Have a great weekend.

Fred

=====

please respond to this address or to fred@papermoneyworld.com

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Happy Sunday,

Boy there was spirited chat last night. Cannot say that it was positive or fruitful, but it was spirited. Had some new "faces" there too so that was good. We stayyed on until 1am eastern so the proposal to get the west coast guys on there late did not work, but I expect that Saturday night is a difficult time in any case. Possibly some "coasters" will show up tonight (ok, actually tomorrow) at 1230am. Doubt that I will still be there tonight at that time.

Phil's survey of highest numbers for each issue is expanding rapidly. Great stuff. There is no end to the possibilities of MPC research.

Remember, mpc chat at www.papermoneyworld.com

See ya there!

Fred

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Oops, the Boling special even will be on April 24th.
That is still Monday, but it is not the 25th.

Thanks

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Happy Monday,
Very animated chat last night. It lasted till after
0130 eastern so you west coast boys who were loafing
could easily have jumped in.
Here is an idea for a future mpc event. We can plan a
24 hour mpcathon (chat). Would be helpful to find some
folks in far away time zones, but we could do it with
the keen folks that we have now if we had too! What do
you think?
Ski is finally home so I expect him to be on line
tonight. Brad had several comments about the Allied
marks (Soviet printings) with the letter prefix to the
serial number. After we talked about it on line, I
suggested that he bring it up again when ski was
available. Ski, if you can find your note, perhaps you
can have it handy for chat tonight.
Seems that everyone is figuring out the new chat so we
may have newer implementation than I had expected.
Hope to see you there tonight.

Fred

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Hello,
Very active chat last night. Everyone was using new chat and I am pleased with that, but I still worry about missing someone trying to sign in. If you have not downloaded the new software or otherwise have or might have a problem, please email [doug@papermoneyworld](mailto:doug@papermoneyworld.com) who can hold your hand. Still did not see any west coasters even though I made to (almost) midnight (eastern). Perhaps some made it.

Well we have arranged our first special even on MPC chat. We will have a special guest on Monday night April 25th at 10pm eastern. The guest will be Joe Boling. Joe is well known to most of you as author of World War II Remembered and ultimate specialist in Japanese numismatics. He had a complete collection of MPC that he sold in the 1970s in order to concentrate even more heavily on Japanese material. He has come back into the mpc fold a little lately by collecting mpc in position 8. If you have any of these in duplicate (or perhaps even in your main collection), he would like to hear about that on Monday. He will also be happy to discuss any aspect of Jananese military money or just about anything else.

Mark your calendars and plan on being there!

Fred

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Hello everyone,

Wow, great response to yesterdays gram about our sepcial geust for Monday, Joe Boling. The response was led off by Joe crrecting my comments about the contents of his MPC collection when he sold it to me in 1974. That is classic Joe. Detail, detail, detail.

In addition to the position number 8 collection that he is working on, Joe has at least one MPC in his collection that I covet for my collection! As most of you know by now, if it is an mpc that I want and that you have, I consider it to be mine that you are simply holding for me.

Anyhow, this on particular item is special. Joe took it out of circulation when he was a child living overseas where his father was stationed. I will not tell you any more about the item as that may be a subject for discussion on Monday's chat.

Doug is working on saving the chat and positing it so that everyone can read the chat even if they are not able to attend. It would be possible to do this every day. So far I would say that what has been written/said has not been worth posting, but we will certainly be happy to have your opinion on that.

John Wilson indicated that I may have given an incomplete address for Doug. It is doug@papermoneyworld.com. If you are having any trouble getting "new chat" going, please contact Doug.

Finally, sorry I did not make chat last night. I was out of town. I expected to be home in time to chat, but just did not make it. I could just about feel all of you guys talking about me!

I will be at chat tonight, but I will probably be late. I look forward to seeing you there!

Have a great day.

Fred

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Hello Guys,

This is the latest in the day that I have ever sent one of these notices. The day kind of fell apart on me and I cannot believe that it is over.

Last night was another good chat. Ed Beaman was another first time visitor, unfortunately, he had trouble with the software and some others seemed to have problems too with getting knocked off the system. I have never experienced these problems. Doug reported that there is a new version of the software so there is some light in that tunnel. These things are never easy I guess.

By now you certainly have seen that I have some nice mpc on ebay. Yesterday the heavily circulated 641 replacements closed. They went for moderately high prices, but not as outlandishly as they might have. Frankly, in spite of the low grade the 5 cent with serial number 222, may have been a bargain at the 125 level. Of course the value of these special nubmers is very hard to evaluate.

I expect to be at chat on time tonight so I hope to see you there.

Fred

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Good morning everyone,

Another good chatlast night. It was a little different perhaps in that people kept coming and going. It was great.

However, the frutrations of technology are taking their toll. Several people are having trouble with the system and I certainly understand that frustration. As reported yesterday, a new version of the software is going to be available very soon. That might help some of the problems, but if my experience with computers is fortells the future, it will introduce some new problems.

Because of the aforementioned computer/software problems the first chat special event must be postponed until we can get Joe into chat!

Doug has placed a new link on the revised welcome page for papermoneyworld.com. Hopefully, that will work so that everyone can get the software, but it did not work for Joe at 4am Friday so I cannot verify this.

Aside to Marv, sorry that I did not answer your questions before you left. Partially, it was because I was distracted by things at home and partially because I was furthering the late April fools prank that I was pulling on you guys. The AMC book is not available because it has not been published yet!

Have a great day everyone. I hope to see you tonight at chat.

Fred

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Hello Everyone,
Happy weekend! Last night was slow on chat. Actaully over the whole evening a fair number of folks checked in, but not too many at once. Then there were some technical problems. Ouch.

Doug has now set up a special MPC chat area so make sure that you go to MPC chat, instead of the public area.

We did have some nice research yesterday. A dealer reported the following British Armed Foreces Special Voucher, Second Series 1 pound note. It is a prefix AA/10 with security thread and a serial number of 450,000. This would seem to limit the notes with watermark to only the last half of the AA/10 block. I am looking forward to Larry Smulczenski's comments on this note. I am not sure if I have a wmk note, but assume that Larry does.

Another Larry (Gibbs) wrote the following question:

Hey Fred. Do you know how many different colors of ink were used to print the wrappers for MPC? I have three wrappers one each printed in purple, green and black ink.

This is a a good one because I cannot say--it is in the book, because I do not believe that it is. Off hand I cannot be sure how many colors were used, but we should compile this information. Furhermore, the bands were printed in (at least) two sizes because of the different heights of the fractional and dollar denominations. A collection of just three colors by two sizes would be an impressive group.

Larry, thanks for the question. Hopefully, we can figure out a clear answer within a few days.

Hope to see everyone at chat tonight. I think that I will not be on till 11pm eastern, but I do expect to be there.

Have a great day!

Fred

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Hello,
This is the latest gram I have ever sent. Chat starts
in a few minutes! Oh well.

Had a nice chat last night. Had some nice discussion
on AM lire and on 651 fractionals.

Have a great story to tell you that happened just
after chat. Might tell it tomorrow or it might have to
wait a few days (weeks).

Sorry about the short gram.

Have a great day,

Fred

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please respond to this address or to fred@papermoneyworld.com

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Hello Everyone,
Sure missed all of you while I was gone. Well, my wife is even more clever than I thought! Even if I had been able to sneak the computer with us on the vacation, she had rented a place with NO TELEPHONE! There definately was no mpc chat for me!!

Got back Thursday night just in time for a little chat. Was happy to have that! Had a nice crowd, but as near as I can tell you west coasters are still lagging behind. What time would entice you to try? We might try once a week to be west coast night and have everyone on "late" if that would entice you!

Ski reported that van Elmpt indicated that the 1 pound note was not printed with the watermark, and that is usually a very good source. I accepted that, but just as Joe Boling indicated skepticism based upon the fact that we had quoted a block in Remembered, I too still wondered.

Well Tom Koch seems to have the final answer on the BAFSV second series 1 pound with watermark. He reports having one with serial number of AA/10 850K. Since we now can also confirm the same note with thread in the AA/10 450K, we seem to be narrowing it down. This would seem to put the printing of the note in the 500K range which certainly is low and a potential key. However, it will depend upon if these watermarked notes were part of any of the hoards. I sure look forward to more reports (of both types) in the serial number gap so that we might nail this down. This is great!

I will be out of town this weekend too, but I will have the laptop AND a phone line, so I should be on chat, and I should be able to get the grams out.

Have a nice weekend, and I hope to see you at chat.

Fred

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Hello,
Well it has only been three hours since I sent out the previous gram (it was number 10 wasn't it?). Anyway, that was because I was so late on that one. Then I am early on this one so they are really running together in my head.

Chat tonight was good with a nice crowd including some new faces. Welcome all. I continue to be disappointed in you west coasters! Come on, sign on anytime between 8 and 10pm Pacific time and you are likely to find some chatters.

After a few nights AWOL ski showed up to set us straight on the BAFSV second series 1 pound. The easy answer is that they probably do not exist. Cross it out of your WWII Remembered. Yes, we need to be thinking of a new edition. Darn that is a lot of work and I do not have my collection marked in the current edition yet!

I will be out of town for a few days. I am asking Marcus to send out a few grams for me. If you have anything that you want in the gram, send it to Marcus@papermoneyworld.com. For that matter on a continuing basis, if you have anything that you want included, send it to me.

Remember chat tonight at 10pm eastern. Bring some questions, comments and controversy!

Fred

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Hello,

Well, I am a little frustrated at the moment. I am at the chess tournament and just won my first game. Although it seemed hard at the time, I guess it was not all that difficult. No, the game is not the source of the frustration. The frustration is that chat is going on at this moment and I cannot participate because I am on a computer at the college where the tournament is being held so I do not have the required software and cannot download it. I may be able to get on when I get back to the room, but that will be quite late. Oh well, there are never easy decisions about computers!

Does anyone know a mail or similar system where I can create mail and have it sent on a schedule? In cases like this, I would like to be able to create the grams ahead and have them mailed while I am away. Any help (wiz) will be appreciated.

I received the following inquiry from Larry Gibbs. It is included along with my response for your information.

Fred, Have you ever seen an MPC where a planchette has fallen off the surface and removed part of one of the numbers in the serial number? I recently acquired a 681 10c in F Serial # C09894255C P#61. In the number 4 the front point is gone and a small round circle of white remains. Guessing the planchette was not well bound into the paper surface and it may have stuck to the press when the serial number was printed. Ever seen one before? Larry Gibbs

Thanks for writing. No, I have not seen the exact situation you describe. I have seen planchettes that have fallen off, but not one in the Serial number. Planchettes are mixed in the liquid paper (or at least while still in the semi liquid/solid state, I am not certain) so they are distributed throughout the paper at various depths and angles.

Do I have the courage to tackle the issue of values and prices in the gram? I am thinking about it for tomorrow or soon.

Have a nice Saturday and I sure hope to see you on chat and if I cannot be there, I hope that you are able to solve the world's problems without me!!

Fred

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Hello,

299 days until MPC Fest II!

It is now on the pmw (papermoneyworld.com) calendar so you can check it any time. Will try to maintain the countdown here too.

Sorry I could not stay on chat last night, the leash was just too short.

I read some of the chat that was left over on my computer this morning and see that Harold made another great find in a 50 cent Series 481 FOURTH printing. This is a great note any way that you look at it, but it is also from position 84 so it has the all important numeral 4 in the position number. Finally, it is also 3434 notes from the highest possible serial number! This last tidbit is available because of Phil's new survey of highest serial numbers.

Phil, is that the closest of any note to the theoretical max? I suspect that it is. I took a lot of heat on Sunday night and since then because I have not sent any numbers to Phil for this new work. Sorry, no excuse. I beg forgiveness and sit at the feet of the multi king! I bow.

Ok, I went through my collection and found the following things. Two of my notes are listed in the survey now. Probably the data came from illustration in the MPC book or elsewhere.

I have only one other note to add at this time. It is a 692 \$20 SN E05099819E. That is all that I have at the moment. I will try to watch my other notes as I look at them, but as many of you know, I cannot find most of them!

Did you see the "advertisement" for the gram on ebay? If you have not, have a look in my auctions (mpcworld). We have picked up a few new subscribers on just the first day and I expect more (welcome).

I will probably try coming on chat at 930pm eastern tonight. I am having trouble staying awake for the 10pm and also getting a lot of heat as you may know or understand. I look forward to seeing you there.

Have a great day,

Fred

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Hello,

Well I am back from travels for a few days so I can get these out again, but I am worried about the next few weeks when I will be traveling again. I need to figure out a better way to do this--at least if you want me to continue. Sure wish that I could figure out a way to schedule mail for the future. Someone must be able to help me figure out a way to do that.

The chess tournament was a success. I even won a little money, but I did miss chat and getting the gram out.

Is this gram 13? I think so, but I also think that there is one missing. Wiz, if you resent last night, it was not in my box today so I do not know what happened. Hope it shows up.

I was able to get on chat for a few minutes last night and able to read some more of the chat this morning. There was a nice group and some good things discussed.

One of the most important was that congratulations are in order for Harold Kroll (aka MPC-Kid aka HARBONS aka perpetrator of Fred bucs) has completed his traditional 90 piece mpc set. The last piece added was the 541 \$10! In an unusual twist, he did not even realize that it was the last piece until he was entering the note in his inventory.

How could that be? Well, ol MPC-Kid has been so hot on replacements that he had lost track of where he was on regular issues! Congratulations Harold.

This discussion on chat generated a new feature on Phil's MPC site. He is putting in a milestone chart recording accomplishments such as Harold's. (Phil, for replacements I think it should be something like 40, 60, and 80 or even include 50 and 70 if you like.) If you do not have the address of Phil's web site you can look at his about me page on ebay. I would send it here if I had it at hand. When I find it next, I will send it out in a gram. I expect that Phil will email it to me along with a little prodding after reading this.

Lots more news brewing for tomorrow and the rest of the week.

Hm, I think that there is chat tonight. Yes, here it is on the schedule, MPC chat tonight at 10pm eastern. Don't miss your chance to participate, after all, MPC chat does not come up every hour!!!

Have a great day,

Fred

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Yo,

Get your tickets now, only 298 day till MPC Fest II!

I only made chat for a few minutes last night, sorry. I expect to be there tonight, but possibly a little late. Will be at the Central States Numismatic Society Convention in Minneapolis over the weekend so I am not sure that I will get grams out each day. We might try some of the alternative plans that we have been cooking up.

I will have a new exhibit of error MPC there (at the show). It is not a super exhibit, but it has some good material.

In preparing this exhibit, I have been thinking about errors. Specifically, I have been thinking about the Series 541 replacements with high numbers. We have a little bit of new information on these, but nothing spectacular. The new thinking that I have is that it is not unreasonable to consider these high-number replacements to be errors. Of course it is possible that they are errors of a traditional nature, that is malfunction of the numbering machines, but that is unlikely.

I believe that the Tudor Press guys lost track of the replacement numbers previously printed and issued when they needed to print some more. So in order to avoid any possibility of duplicating an issued replacement number, they created these high number. If that is correct, these may not be errors, but they are the result of errors by the workers. And of course error replacements are extremely desirable, so it makes them even more interesting. I will appreciate your thoughts on this.

You should have received an email from Doug Bell about the MPC Fest I shirts. As usual, Doug has done a great job. If you want any of these shirts, be sure to contact Doug soon, because they will be much cheaper if ordered in the next few weeks! Thanks, Doug.

Well, I am out of time, but still lots to report. I hope to see you at chat tonight.

Fred

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Good morning everyone!

Only 298 days to MPC Fest II!!

Great chat last night even if I only participated in absentia. For whatever reasons, the aol gods did not kick me off until chat was finished so I was able to read the whole thing this morning.

Bill McNease made his first chat (more than most of those pesky west coasters can say) and had plenty of good information.

He was involved with law enforcement in Vietnam and has personal knowledge of the use of the VOID CID stamps. He indicated that he may write an article on these notes. We certainly look forward to this.

In reaction to a few of the things that were said, I can report the following. Some \$20 notes have been seen, and some of these have been initialed.

Harold is in Oklahoma with wiz. I know because my ears were burning. Then I read it on chat too!

I will be at the Central States Numismatic Society convention until Monday, so do not know what my participation will be in chat or with the gram.

Marcus is going to publish the gram on Friday. Volunteers will be accepted to do it on Sat, Sun and even Mon.

Chat tonight at 10 for everyone east of the Rockies. I may be able to get in with my laptop, but cannot be sure! If I do not see you tonight, I hope to see you soon.

Fred

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Only 298 days to MPC Fest II!!

Good eveing/morning guys! I had to to this at home very late. Normally I would have sent it from the office but the "I LOVE YOU" virus has shut us down for a while.

As you may know Fred is at the Central States Show in Minnesota this weekend. I believe that both Fred and Marv are going to have exhibits at the show. Good luck guys! Any reports from the show would be appreciated.

Harold is still staying down and Doug's place and both are planning attend the ANA show in Oklahoma City this weekend. Keep us informed on that one too.

I was only able to stay on chat for short time this evening. There is only one phone line in my house and several people wanting to talk. Most of the conversation on chat was surrounding the computer viruses going around. Steer clear of those things! They will rename and corrupt all of your jpg files if you open the message. If you are like me, there are enough images on my machine to re-write World War II Remembered.

NEW ITEM! FREE classified ads! Just submit you add to me at marcus@papermoneyworld.com . A classified section will be added to papermoneyworld.com soon. These are intended to be specific items that you would like sell or buy. No general ads will be accepted.

Well, its getting late. Good evening all.

Marcus

Good morning,
Drat, I missed another chat. Just could not be helped.
Sometimes it is too difficult while on the road. Hope
there was some good chat. I will read the transcript
later. You do know that you can read chat from the day
before by going to PMW!

Reading it this way is not as good as participating,
but it is still nice to know what happened.
Nothing more to report from CSNS. Actually, I was not
in the bourse room late on Saturday afternoon and am
not going in at all this morning.
Thanks Marcus for the gram on Friday. Hey, that is
great news about the FREE classified ads at Papermoney
world. I will send one/some in this week. I think
everybody should jump on it. Hey, at the price it is
certainly a great deal!!!

I have been pondering this since I saw what Marcus
wrote. Should the ads all go up at one time to make
sort of an event, or should they be posted at sort of
random times so that people need to keep checking? I
do not know the correct answer. Probably there should
be a date for the classified section something like
"last updated on---" but even that is not a certainty.
Then of course if it is possible to put a counter in
just that section, that would be a good idea too.
These are all interesting questions. Guess they do not
have much to do with MPC/military money research/chit
chat.

Like I said, I think that we should jump on this.
I have been thinking about Phil's great find of the
521 \$5/printing 2. It is indeed a great find. I look
forward to getting home and studying some of the data
that I have on this note. Phil, I suggest that you
post a scan of this note on your web page. Even
better, please corrdinte w/wiz to post a scan of it on
PMW. I for one certainly look forward to seeing it.
I think that this leaves on only the 472 50c second
printing unreported. That is as it should be because
it is the lowest printing of all MPC and the basic
note is by no means common. I thought all along that
this would be the key of the multis, but of course we
still have lots to learn about these.

Ski, what is the final word on exhibiting at Memphis?
Can guys still get in? Would like to put that
information in tomorrows gram and also on the PMW
calendar.

Only 294 days till MPC Fest II. (Joe, are you auditing
this count?) I may have confused a few days, but this
is close!

I expect to be home tonight in time for chat. Hope to
get a detailed report from wiz/kid on the Oklahoma
show and more information from Marv on CSNS.

Have a great day and hope to see you this evening.

Fred

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Hello Guys,
Great MPC weekend! MPC is why god made weekends I think!
I have spoken a few times about CSNS, and do not have too much more to add. Marv should have lots more to report on that. I was not there too long. Had some car troubles and other things. Did not even get the exhibit set up!
Harold and wiz seem to have had a great time in Tulsa and I hope that they will share some of that here in the gram. [Guys, you can send it out separately or you can send it to me for inclusion in the gram.]
Last night's chat was GREAT. Broken up a little bit by techie problems, but lots of guys and some interesting chat. Congratulations to the west coast for coming up with TWO participants: Tom K and Ed B. Tom, I owe you an apology, you have been a regular and yet I have been complaining that the west coast does not participate. It is your geofriends who are slacards! Kick them in the butt.

Brad P has created a list of MPC people at egroups.com. You probably received info from them today. Seems like a good thing I guess. Because of his initiative, I got to thinking about the privacy aspects of the gram and have tried an experiment with this issue. Your address was only included in the blind copy section so that it will not be available to the other recipients. At the moment, I think that everyone is comfortable with everyone else, but when we get over 10,000 gramers, there could be a problem, so I will give this a try.
Brad thinks that I can or should use the egroups mpc-list, and it might be a better system. We will have to get some experience.
Busted, yes, I was busted by ebay for selling free subscriptions to mpc gram! They zapped the ad. Seems amazing to me. Someone must have complained, but I cannot imagine who/why. But neither can I imagine any other way that ebay would have come up with it. Have not checked mail yet to see what kind of sanctions they may want to place on me. I am sure that it was a warning only this time, but it should be interesting. Darn, I thought that it was a clever idea and had some ideas for followons.
Larry S reports that the deadline for Memphis Exhibit applications is May 15. Exhibiting is always a good way to spread the word about MPC. It is also a very good way at Memphis and other major shows to get credentials for early bourse entry! Try it, you will like it. I will put the deadline on the pmw calendar as well as other exhibiting deadlines as I get them (Joe please help) and I believe that Marcus is posting a copy of the application at pmw.
Get your classified ads into Marcus.

Well only 293 days till MPC Fest II.

Have a great day. See you at chat tonight.

Fred

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please respond to this address or to fred@papermoneyworld.com

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Hello Everyone,

As usual, lots to discuss. First, I had lots of technical problems today just sending out this gram because I was pasting in the letter below. I am not sure what the problem is, but I gave up and took another approach.

Monday's chat was good I thought. Lots of discussion about Allied Military yen. In particular the differences among the printings. Good discussion.

We also had some more discussion about Phil's new find--the first Series 521/2 \$5 (second printing). Well, it turns out that he obtained the note from David Seylee. Furthermore, it turns out that David had this note in his inventory at the Chicago Paper Money Expo. I not only was at that show, but my table was near David's. So it seems obvious to me that the note is rightfully MINE and Phil should send it to me forthwith! I will be generous and allow visitation rights at each MPC Fest! Seems fair to me!

I received the following letter from a chatter. He did not ask for anonymity, but I took his name off anyway. Letter writer, if you want to be identified, identify yourself on chat and/or write again and I will put your id in the next gram.

The letter includes a lot of ideas. I will not comment on the ideas for the moment in the hope that some of you will comment. You know me, if I get started, I will comment for hours/pages.

I will discuss the "question" at the end.

> The silence on the chat is deafening at times. Some thoughts:

>

1. Set a certain night aside every week for exclusive discussion on amc,jim, other WWII currency (everything but mpc)

>

> 2. Since the participants vary from east to west coast: what if we set the standard time at 10:00 est but set aside 11:00 for west coasters; that might keep the activity from waning. Of course, we have to get some west coasters to participate.

>

> 3. Is the primary purpose of the chat to inform and educate or just be a place for advanced collectors/dealers to send private messages, set up phone calls and otherwise transact mpc buy/sell/trade? I haven't reconciled the two in my mind yet would prefer it to be a place for learning from the "experts". For instance; maybe give some ideas of the current areas of research being conducted by certain participants. Then by reviewing "remembered" and notes held in collections a participant can make some worthwhile contributions.

>

Maybe everyone could contribute their own most wanted question: One of mine is: "If I have a specimen piece; how can I figure out where it was issued?" Probably impossible but food for thought.

>

Keep in mind that I am not the typical well heeled dealer/collector so I need a bit more to keep me interested. No offense intended by any of this but just wanted to share some random thoughts.

end of letter>

Ok, well your question about specimens is not easy to answer. Perhaps I do not even understand the question. I assume that you are using the word specimen in the technical sense of sample rather than sense of example. Even that was not clear. Assume that you mean a note marked specimen.

Well, the first comment is that in the most common

sense specimens are not issued. Also assume that you are talking about MPC here as opposed to other types. Well the specimens would normally be "issued" to finance offices for official use and then to individuals for the same reason.

It you want to know at what finance office a particular specimen was "issued" there is not much hope except with associated documents. There is only once case that comes to mind. A Series 461 specimen book (illustrated in the Comp Catalog) has pencil annotations on the cover indicting that the booklet was to be returned to LTC Gunston. Gunston is a well known personality in AMG stamps. He was in Europe during the war and after so presumably that his where he had this booklet.

Some other specimens in a Smythe sale had clues as to the person who had them. It would then be possible to inestigate where that (dead) person obtained them. I may not even be close to your question and I am tired of fighting the computer, so I will close.

Thanks for writing. Please write again and that goes for the rest of you too. Your comments are welcome and necessary.

Only 292 days till Fest II!

See you at chat.

Fred

=====

please respond to this address or to fred@papermoneyworld.com

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Hello Everyone,

It is late in the day. Am even behinder than normal!
It seems that the hurrier I go, the behinder I get!
Also having a few problems with gram delivery. If you
did not not get this gram, please be sure to complain!
;)

Nice chat last night. Nothing partirucularly exciting,
but a nice group of guys. The west coasters (except
Tom K) continue to lag. Shame on you guys. How can we
get you involved? Once we get you going late into the
night, we can perhaps get some Asian involvement. One
of the special events that I have immagined is a 24
(48?) hour MPC marathon. The easiest way to make that
happen is by getting people all around the world to
participate. But I seldom do things the easy way, so
we may have to do it the hard way and count on all you
young MPC fans out there to keep it up so to speak
throughout the night. Of course I look forward to your
thoughts on that idea. Also, hope that you can think
up some other special events.

Do have some research and other things to discuss. In
fact lots of such items, but just no time right now,
so I had better get this gram out.

Send your classified advertisements to Marcus. Chat
tonight at 10pm eastern. Perhaps the thunderstorms
will give us a break tonight. I may be a little late,
butI expect to be there.

Oh yes, the most important thing! Remember the 521/2
\$5 reported yesterday? I am sure that you do. Well,
Phil, the gentleman that he is, has agreed that it
really does belong in my collection. At least I think
that is what he meant when he said in response to my
claims on the note "In your dreams!" Yes, Phil, I HAVE
been dreaming about it so that must have been what you
meant. Thank you! ;}

Only 291 days till Fest II.

Fred

=====

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Hello Guys (no gals receiveing the gram--yet),

Last night was a disaster for me. I could not get online at all. PMW was not the problem. I guess AOL was the problem as I am able to get on this morning. Perhaps will never know what the problem was.

Obvously I did not chat last night and do not have anytime right now for news or commentary other than to remind you that there will be chat tonight at 10pm eastern (not only do I hope so see YOU there, I HOPE to be there myself).

Send in your classified ads to Marcus. Only 290 days till Fest II!

Fred

=====

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Good Morning all,

Man is there a lot to discuss, but this may be the shortest gram ever (or at least so far). I have to get the brakes fixed on my car and do not have a clue how long it will take so I am sending this out now. If I get a chance later in the day, I will send a gram 21 update with something of substance.

Chat started slow last night, but eventually there were some players and some substance.

Only 289 days till Fest II.

Fred

=====

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Happy Monday Everyone,

Well, I am back from AWOL!! Sorry about hiding out for the past few days. I just could not get things organized enough to get out even a short gram. I missed chat for several days too.

There sure is a lot to discuss too! Will hardly get started here I am sure. Oh well.

First we have to do a little administrative work. I received two complaints last week about some vulgarity on chat. I read the log file and agree, but this is a difficult matter to deal with. Anyway, Wiz and I discussed it and he came up with a partial technical solution. Chat will no longer transmit messages with the worst words. Certainly a person can use some initiative to get around this, but I hope that this little check will make a person think better of it.

Having said that there are some problems. Wiz claims to not know all of the bad words! When we talked about the "F" word, I reported that many collectors at Memphis think that the "F" word is "foreign"! Anyway, we fixed that and it is excluded (not foreign). Wiz, last night I learned that I cannot use the word glass as in magnifying glass (guess I could say lens or device), but also could not use pass to mean decline so there is some more work needed. Wiz, please remove ass from the banned list unless the software can be improved to cover entire words. Probably there are some other problems too.

I had lots of research items to discuss too, but not sure that I can remember them. Darn those senior moments. Oh yes, Kid turned 39 yesterday! Congratulations Kid, watch out Larry.

Kevin Maloy bought what looks to be a very interesting MPC document on ebay. Kevin, have you received it yet? We will be delighted to have some comments about it here. We would also be delighted to publish the text here in the gram or graphically at pmw. I certainly am interested to learn what it says!

Wiz is working on some new pmw features. Send your classified advertisements to marcus@papermoneyworld.com and come to chat tonight. Do you need any more instructions?

Oh yes, per a discussion this morning with another collector. Please try the calendar at pmw. It has lots of information and we need feedback as we try to expand its use.

Only 288 days till MPC Fest II.

Ok, I will stop for now.

Fred

=====

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Marv Mericle won first place in the paper money category at the Central States Numismatic Society convention in Minneapolis with his exhibit of MPC. Then he was on the front page of Numismatic News! Of course we are particularly pleased that he won with an MPC exhibit. Marv, can you give us a report on the other paper money exhibits?

Marv plans on having the exhibit at Memphis too so you can have a look at it there if you like. I am a keen advocate of competitive exhibiting at the local through national level. It is a great way to show off a little and have some fun at the same time. The pmw calendar includes information on exhibiting, deadlines etc. We plan on including more in the future, but need your help with information and feedback!

Only 287 days till MPC Fest II!

I probably will not be on chat until late tonight. In that way I can chat with all of those west coasters who have been hiding out late on chat!

If you have been having trouble getting onto chat, chat with wiz (doug@papermoneyworld.com).

Have a great day!

Fred

=====

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Hello fans,
Sorry I missed chat last night. Just could not be
helped. Expect to be there tonight, but I will be a
little late.

Still lots of things going on and not enough time to
process half of it!

Only 652 days (approximately) till MPC Fest III!

Fred

=====

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Wow, it was exciting on chat last night. The big news broke and everyone was stunned.

Briefly here is the news. Sets of unissued Series 691 and 701 MPC are going to be available to collectors very soon! These are the spectacular unissued sets that we have known about for some time. However, even though we did have some black and white illustrations in the MPC book, they were not very good. It is exciting just to see the color illustrations, much less the notes!

You can see the notes by going to www.starcomm.net/bell. This site did not work last night and there are some problems even as I write this, but Doug is working on it and I am sure by Friday night you can see the notes. Make a point of going to the illustrations before chat tonight. You will be glad that you did and we can chat about it.

After the initial shock wears off, the next group of questions are collector type questions. How much, how many, when? Well, the ultimate source of the notes deliberately wants collectors to have first shot at the note and at a reasonable price. Of course everyone has a different idea about what is reasonable, but from everything that I have been able to determine, this is going to happen. Furthermore, the proceeds (100%) are going to charity!

How many is of course a big question. 50 sets are being sold and that appears to be the extent of it, but I cannot attest to that. There is also a special twist to this that I cannot talk about at the moment only because I am not sure that I am authorized to do so, but it is a positive twist.

The "feeling" is that there are a "few" more sets beyond the 50 but I cannot be sure. These few might be the few sets that the fellow wants for himself, I just do not know.

When, well I think that it is going to be very soon. Possibly within a few days you will have an opportunity to purchase a set. How all of this will happen I am just not sure. I will certainly fight to have recipients of the gram offered sets.

The seller definitely wants the notes going to collectors. Of course this is one of the eternal questions. What is a collector and/or a dealer? I cannot imagine a more serious collector than I! I think you will agree with that. However, I certainly am also a dealer. I have helped many collectors over the years with their collections. So this may be a little sticking point. This is an awkward and somewhat difficult situation. It always is in cases like this.

I will keep you informed as best I can.

This "discover" is a research bonanza! Ah, first, let me clarify what notes are available because this relates to the research.

The 50 sets consist of 8 notes each. The \$1, 5, 10, and 20 of series 691 and 701. No fractionals were printed for series 691. Fractionals were printed for 701, but were not delivered to the DOD.

The serial numbers prove that there were two printings of both of these series. This is somewhat amazing in itself but is consistent with other information that we know.

I am going to start working immediately on an article putting together everything that we can on these two series. It will be serialized here in the gram then published somewhere. Possibly the BNR.

Oh yes, the story announcing this find will appear in the June BNR which is mailed next week. At least is it

is supposed to appear there. With publications, you cannot be sure until it is in print. The article is by Marcus Turner. I have not seen the article yet either so I cannot comment on it.

Aside to Marcus. We would love to see the article distriubuted here in the gram in the next few days as a "preview." You sort of asked me about this sort of thing in the past. We certainly can do this without "offending" the BNR people. You can send me the text or we can arrange for you to send it out.

Well, guys (still no gals), this is the essence of the news! It is amazing, spectacular, and wonderful!!!

I sure look forward to your comments and even your questions for the gram and on chat.

Have a great day!

Fred

=====

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Hello Guys,

Sorry I am so late with this gram and that I missed both days on the weekend and chat last night too! No excuse I am sorry to say. Life just keeps making demands to interfere with my hobby!

I understand that chat last night centered on the age old question "what is it worth." In this particular case the 691/701 sets. I was going to read the chat and comment, but have decided to comment first.

Of course we have been through these things before--where previously rare (or unknown) notes became available. Specifically in the area of military money the most notable examples are British Armed Forces Special Vouchers and Series 651 fractional MPC. There are other examples too.

As usual in cases like this, condition is not a factor since all of the notes are unc. Without doubt the overriding factor is how many sets are there? At the moment I do not know. I do not know if anyone but Mr. Deep Source knows. I do not think that Doug, Marcus, or Marv know. They are reporting that there are 50 sets available. That is good and more forthright than the early resellers of BAFSV were and more than the 651 deep source has ever been.

Actually, all of this may be premature because I have not seen the article that is going to be in the Bank Note Reporter in just a week or so. Perhaps that will answer some/many/or all of the questions (but I doubt it).

When the first set of 651 fractionals was sold, Ted Uhl was the seller. He guaranteed that it was the only set available and that the set was returnable if another set came out. Ted's reputation was not the greatest, but still it was a guarantee of sorts. Of course we know that there were more sets and we are quite sure that Ted was involved with those sets too, but Ted died between the times that the sets came out so there was not much that could be done.

The point I am trying to make is that although there are no guarantees (hardly ever in this business), the credibility of the individuals is important. If Doug/Marcus/Marv were to say to the community that they believed that 50 sets were all, the community would by and large accept that. However, this is a difficult statement to make because I do not think that any of them know for sure.

Other thoughts. The idea the money is going to charity is a good one. It does allow some good feelings, but it still leaves unknowns about possible additional notes/sets. Ok, I have beat that subject for quite a while.

What are the notes worth if there are 50 sets (only)? Well the value of the 651s comes to mind. This is far from a perfect measure, but it is a place to start. It seems that sets now routinely sell for about \$3000 in the open market so that would be 7-800 each. That is what we have to pay at the moment to get one for our collections. What can we get for our set if we have one and want to sell it? The "wholesale" price? This is one of those things that is seldom discussed.

Dealers who might buy a set are subject to the same kinds of feelings as the collectors because they just do not know how many are available. The "buy" price is substantially below \$3000.

Are the 691/701s better (worth more) or worse (worth less) than the 651? An interesting question. There are so many factors. The 651s were actually issued (making them better). The 691 and especially the 701s are more attractive (making them better).

The fact that there are eight pieces available at one time is a decided disadvantage because it requires more capitol at one time.

Let's think about it another way. Mr. DS wants to sell all 50 sets to collectors as I understand it. I think that this is wonderful. It has many practical problems that we might discuss another time, but for now we are discussing WIIW.

There is little doubt that at \$1000 (in all cases talking about for the group) the entire 50 sets could be sold to collectors quite rapidly. This would have the added bonus of allowing some decidedly "small time" collectors a chance to have something really nice in their collections.

None would sell at \$10,000 per group. I do not think that there would be a sell out at \$5000 or even \$4000. Now we are between 1 and 4 K. I think that we can narrow it even more and count on a sell out at 2-3K.

Of course the factors overlooked above about how it will be done are involved. How will collectors be contacted beyond those known by the current sellers? Frankly, the higher the price and the fewer the guarantees about quantities, the less I would be likely to facilitate sales. First of all, dealers generally expect to make money on a transaction. But beyond that, it is risky for a dealer to suggest, recommend or other wise facilitate a sale under conditions like these. He (few female dealers) has little to gain and lots to lose. The biggest fear is that if more come out the buyer holds the dealer to blame even though he was just trying to do the collector a favor. Beyond that, the sets siphon some money away from the collector that could have been sent with the dealer. These are just a few of the factors.

I am afraid that I have not answered the question. WIIW. Perhaps I will continue this tomorrow or later in the week. I certainly welcome your thoughts. We will be happy to publish your thoughts here in whole or part.

Lots of other news too, but I will postpone any of that till tomorrow or the next day.

I hope to make it to chat tonight. Oh yes, if you have tried to download the chat software recently without success, try it again. Wiz reports that there was a gremlin that he has chased away.

Hope to see you tonight!

Fred

=====

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Hello everyone,

This is another late in the day gram. The hurrier I go the behinder I get!

Marcus reports that the first classified ads have been posted at papermoneyworld.com. Be sure to have a look at what is for sale and send Marcus some ads of your own. I have not sent him any, but will do it soon. He also reports that your ads may include a link to an image if you like. Pmw cannot host these images, but a link can be included so buyers can see what you have for sale. This is certainly cool.

Many of you have been watching the full set of MPC being sold by Orlando coin on ebay. Mike Cummings is the dealer behind this. Mike is an MPC fan from WAY back. He had a complete set of MPC in the 1970s. He also sold the second known 651 50c before the sets became available. If memory serves that note went for \$5000!!! Remember, that is just for the 50c! There are several wonderful stories about that exact note, but they will have to wait for another time.

The 541 \$5 closed yesterday and a well known MPC chatter bought it. If he wants to reveal himself, I will let him do it.

If I make it to chat tonight it will be late so you guys can talk about me all that you want too!

Have a great one.

Fred

=====

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Yo MPC Fans,

The Spring is now beautiful in downtown Port Clinton!

Sorry that I did not make it to chat last night. I heard that it was a little sparse! Sorry about that, but it is hard for me to believe with all of the stuff that is going on. Also cannot believe that this group is chatted out! Not THIS group.

I will be out of town for the weekend, but I might be able to get on chat a few times. Perhaps more importantly, I am figuring out a way to still send out the gram, if not every day, most days. Also thinking about some new features. I sure will be happy to have your feedback and thoughts on chat and the gram (Tom, your ideas will be published VERY soon here in the gram).

We hardly discussed the CAA auction in Chicago from last weekend. I was going to attend but at the last minute cancelled. I expect that I bought some things, but perhaps not. Has anyone heard anything about prices from there?

Obviously the biggest news continues to be the 691/701 story and what is going to happen there. The Marcus Turner story on that is going to be in the BNR which is going to press tomorrow I think. I hope that Marcus will allow the story to be distributed here tomorrow or over the weekend since the BNR will not get to most of our mailboxes till sometime next week.

Hope to see you at chat tonight.

Have a great day.

Fred

=====

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Hello Everyone,

Had trouble getting this gram distributed. Shotgun gets his VIP version of the gram at work and helped me "fix" the distribution problems. Thanks, Brad!

If you have other versions of gram 30 in your inbox, trash them. If you have a letter intended for Ed Beaman, trash it too. Sorry about all of this.

Wow, miss a day or two and there is so much to report that I need a full time staff just for the gram!

I was only in chat for a few minutes last night (sorry about that), but it was a good one. Professor Ski was holding class. I like Larry's handle of MPCski. It is much better than most of the others (including mine). Anyway, we need to make a new one for profski, porfeski, or something like that. What do you guys think?

Well today is the day that the BNR comes out. Only a few people get an express version of the paper and those are the only people who will get it today. I know that Doug Bell paid the price to get this month's copy via express. Possibly we can get a report from him on the paper tomorrow or more likely he can report tonight at chat! Doug, we want to hear.

I get my BNR via first class. I think that we discussed this here in the gram in the past. I get it first class because I am such a VIP (and because I paid the \$30 or so to get it(grin))! Anyway, sometimes I get mine on Saturday of the week that it is distributed. However, because of the holiday I think even most of the first class copies will not be delivered until Tue. Many of the normal 2nd class copies will then be delivered on that day too, so the email and phones will probably start on Tue.

I continue to ask (beg, plead, etc) with Marcus to allow us to have a copy of the article distributed here in the gram. Indeed, if he would give the go today, we could have an EXTRA! Hound him please (Marcus@papermoneyworld.com).

There should be another article in there on MPC multiple printings. This will be the first time that the information has been divulged to the general MPC public on these multis. Sort of makes the Memphis BNR an MPC issue with two stories!

Daid Kranz (of the BNR) and I have sort of agreed to make the Feb or Mar 2001 an unofficial MPC issue. The idea is that I will coordinate (or write) a couple MPC stories and we will try to coordinate to have dealers place their MPC ads in that issue so that it will be an unofficial MPC issue. I love using the back door to get things done!

I am going to be out of town for the long weekend. I am going to Chicago for a chess tournament. Unless chat goes very long, I will not be able to get on tonight, but might be able to on Sat or Sun. Hope to be able to read the chat logs daily and also process email, but I cannot be sure.

Not only will I be busy with chess, but the boss is going too so I will be under all sorts of PRESSURE!

Am also hoping to be able to send grams out while away. Have started working on them so that will be interesting.

I continue to have computer problems. The hard drive with some of my data and with my printer driver is not working. I cannot print anything and cannot find many things so it is a real problem. That is just one of the many things holding up the MPC replacement book. However, the manuscript is safe (so far).

Have a great day, guys!

Fred

Asides:

John Wilson, I think the award would be best at the
breakfast meeting

Kevin, did you get the document?

David S., received your phone message, will try to
respond.

=====

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Hello Everyone,

The gram below was intended to be sent on Saturday, but I could not get it out from the hotel. I was very frustrated about that! Sorry.

First, I must say that I had it wrong. The BNR is not published until THIS week. Sorry about that. However, I can report that the editor said that we will probably have a color 691/701 on the front page. Still no guarantee, but probably.

Marcus did ask the editor for permission to distribute the 691/701 article here, but David Harper asked us not to do that. I guess that we should be flattered that the BNR could consider the MPC Gram to be competition!! Thanks for trying Marcus.

Delayed gram starts below.

This is also remote gram #1. It is being sent while I am in Chicago. Actually, I guess we did this once before where Marcus and/or Doug sent out a gram for me while I was on the road somewhere. Anyway, hopefully, you receive this gram on Saturday.

Chat on Thursday included an interesting concept. Someone was talking about boarder notes. Sorry, I do not remember who brought it up and used that term. Someone help me on that.

Anyway, the concept being discussed there was to find the last note of a printing and the first note of the next printing. This would apply only to series with multiple printings. Boy, I can go on about this for a long time!!

I don't think that we have discussed this in the gram, but I have discussed with many of you the possibility of finding the last note of a given issue. This is actually more rare (in collections) than serial number 1 notes. At the time of manufacturing of course they are equally rare (and both unique for each issue). However, the number ones got saved (in at least some cases) whereas any last numbers that survive are probably by simple chance. Rare, rare, rare and a treasure hunting goldmine.

Finding the border notes would be simply an extension of the above. Well, I have yet another twist.

I would like to find ANY two consecutive serial numbers from different positions! A very good example applying to any denomination would be SN 00008000 (position 1) and 00008001 (position 2). Any such pair would be wonderful in demonstrating the sheet numbering concept that is so important and causes so much difficulty.

The above example may be the most desirable because of the low numbers, but a great pair (for any fractional MPC) would be 00672000 and 00672001. Do you need to ask profski what the position numbers would be? Think for a moment. They would be 84 and 1 respectively. They would be the last note from unit one and the first from the second unit. The word unit is a little confusing, profski (and Ray Toy too) insists on using the word run, but I do not like that. I prefer the word unit which is the word used in BEP documents. However, profski, I must admit that the documents do not use it in exactly the same sense that we collectors use it.

Someone can and will find some pairs like this. Phil is a good candidate because of the way that he digs! We sure need some pairs like these to illustrate in the MPC book to help people understand the concept!

Thanks for bringing this up in chat and let's go find some pairs!

I received the Lyn Knight Currency [sic] Auctions catalog for the Memphis sale. Wow, what a catalog, color throughout. It is surprising that it does not include any MPC, but it does include some exciting military notes. Most notably a Series 1934 North Africa \$10 (CU). This is a very rare note indeed. Knight says and I agree that it is probably the rarest non-star small size note. Of course the star version of the same note is unique. We will certainly examine these notes, watch the sale, and report on the results.

I expect that the Smythe auction will include some MPC, but I do not have any advance word on that. Have a great day.

Fred

=====

please respond to this address or to fred@papermoneyworld.com

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Yo MPC fans,

Received the Lyn Kinght and Smythe auction catalogs for Memphis. No MPC in the Knight sale, but it is a spectacular catalog from the technology point of view (full color throughout). Although there is no MPC, there are some important notes for us! Most importantly there is an uncirculated Series 1934 \$10 North Africa note.

The Smythe sale has a Series 651 set which is not so interesting anymore, but it does have one interesting note. They have a Series 471 \$10 with missing ink that they catalog as an error. They stat that there is no evidence of tampering, but the missing ink is on the back and to a lesser extent on the face, so I am in doubt. Noramlly, this means that the note is the result of a chemistry experimnet. I have called Marty Gengerke at Smythe to discuss the note. When I hear back from him, I will certainly let everyone know what he says. Furthermore, of course we will examine it at Memphis.

Tom K sent the following letter regarding MPC chat. What do you think?

The silence on the chat is deafening at times. Some thoughts:

1. Set a certain night aside every week for exclusive discussion on amc,jim, other wwII currency (everything but mpc)

2. Since the participants vary from east to west coast: what if we set the standard time at 10:00 est but set aside 11:00 for west coasters; that might keep the activity from waning. Of course, we have to get some west coasters to participate.

3. Is the primary purpose of the chat to inform and educate or just be a place for advanced collectors/dealers to send private messages, set up phone calls and otherwise transact mpc buy/sell/trade? I haven't reconcile the two in my mind yet would prefer it to be a place for learning from the "experts." For instance; maybe give some ideas of the current areas of reserach being conducted by certain participants. Then by reviewing "remembered" and notes held in collections a participant can make some worthwhile contributions.

Maybe everyone could contribute their own most wanted question: One of mine is: "If I have a specimen piece; how can I figure out where it was issued?" Probably impossible but food for thought.

Keep in mind that I am not the typical well heeled dealer/collector so I need a bit more to keep me interested. No offense intended by any of this but just wanted to share some random thoughts.

with respect,

Tom

Well, what DO you think? Tom certainly has some good points. I expect to try to have some more "special events." You may recall we tried to have a special interview of Joe Boling, but the technology got in the way. I expect that we will try that special event again soon. Probably after Memphis. Speaking of Memphis, we will try to have special Memphis grams and possibly Memphis chat from Memphis where chatters who are there can chat with those who are not.

Ah, there is an idea! We are always up late a Memphis and the West coasters are underrepresented at Memphis just as on chat so we can combine that. Perhaps during Memphis, we can start chat at 2400 eastern. What do you think about that? West coasters, will you make a special effort to participate?

Well, I will be back in PC on Monday night, but possibly not in time for chat, but still things will be sort of normal again starting on Tue, but of course normal is not very normal for me.

Fred

=====

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Hello MPC fans,

The distribution of the 691/701 certificates raises a few cataloging questions.

Currently they are in the MPC book after series 692. They are sort of an afterthought. It was nice to have them at all and it did not make much difference because basically they were not available.

Now that collectors will have them, I wonder if they belong there (where they are) or should be integrated in numerical order.

Of course, there is a good argument to just leave them where they are. The best argument is that if it "ain't broke, don't fix it." So, I guess the real question is "Is it broke?"

Well, if the reason is that they are at the end because they are unissued, well, they are still that. However, if that is the argument, they should have gone after the coupons because they were issued.

If they come after 692 because chronological instead of numerical order is used there is another problem. Series 661 was issued before 651 yet we list them in numerical order.

I can remember pondering this weighty question in the 1970s. I guess that I hoped that I would have to fret about the problem again for a reason like this one.

I figured that there was no perfect solution. At that time it seemed to me that the overriding consideration was making the series easy to find in the book for collectors (and others) who were not specialists.

I am inclined toward reordering the listings and putting them in series order, but I certainly look forward to your thoughts and ideas on this. Of course I always look forward to your thoughts and ideas!

Have a great one!

Fred

=====

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Hello Guys,

I received a call back from Marty Gengerke of Smythe about the 471 \$10 "error." Marty did the cataloging and believes that it is an error. He says that he did look at it under ultraviolet light. When asked how he can account for the missing ink on the face as well as the back, he says that he cannot. Of course he suggest that we examine the note at Memphis and of course we certainly will.

I remain very suspect. I will get Joe Boling to look at it to. Joe is very methodical and experienced as such things. Aside to MPCski, please bring your uv light.

So that it is clear, Marty was open and helpful. He is also a very good and experienced numismatist.

This is an interesting item. A high grade 471 \$10 is not the note that we would expect someone to mess with thus supporting the error theory. Of course that would therefore also support a deception!

Even if it is determined to be a genuine error, the nagging doubts will hold the price down for a very long time in my opinion.

The Bank Note Reporter with the story on the 691 701 MPC is on the street. I have not seen it yet, but Wiz has and gave us a report. We did not get the front page coverage that we wanted, but it is still a great story and will be important.

I hope to see you on chat tonight! Have a great day.

Fred

Aside to John Wilson, I suggest the breakfast meeting for the award.

=====

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Hello MPC fans,

Last nights chat was a little sparse and a little slow to get going, but it got much better as the night went on.

The major topic discussed was the damn dam vignette on the back of the mpc 692 \$20. It pretty clearly is not the Hoover dam. Does anyone know for sure what damn dam it is? This might be one for our absentee Western chatters! Help please.

The new chat software seems to be working better. I have not started using it so I can attest that the old and new will mix. One report complains that the default text is a bit small. Wiz reports that this can be changed, but I cannot remember how. Wiz, please repeat these instructions in an email or even better post them on the chat page.

Hope that all is going well with you as excitement builds toward Memphis. It should certainly be fun. Of course I hope to see everyone there, but for those who cannot make it, we will try to publish grams from there and have Memphis centered chat each evening too.

Have a great day.

Fred

=====

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Hello mpc fans,

Happy Sunday. In reponse to the discussion on what Brad called "border pairs," Joe Boling wrote that we should call these change over pairs because this is a well established term in pm collecting. Actually, I had thought of that during the discussion on chat, but held off on that part. Then I thought that we might want to come up with our own terminology because the term is not now used for such things as positions.

However, I am changing my opinion. I had a chat today with profski about this and he thinks that change over pair is not only a good term, but applicable. The only problems seems to be that we have three different types of change overs that we are considering: change over from one position to the next, from one unit to the next, and from one printing to the next. Of course each order of change over includes all of the lower orders. There is also another twist. A printing changeover need not be consecutive serial numbers. This is the case of known skips in numbering.

There are still some questions about these skips that must be studied.

Joe and Ski also opined that even a "simple" position change over pair will be very difficult to locate and I agree. Whereas consecutive numbers are not at all unusual because the notes were issued and even in many cases circulated that way. However, such pairs were not only from separate bundles of 100, but also different boxes of 4000 notes. Of course just because it is difficult, does not mean that we should not try to locate such pairs.

Seems to me that the way to start is by trying to locate as many changeover notes (half of a pair) as we can. As we find some of these, it might be possible to pair some of them. Phil Goldstein has been collecting notes like this on general principles but I do not know if he has even a single changeover note.

Of course as always, I will be happy to hear your comments on this.

I finally received a new \$5 FRN in change. My bank has not had any yet. My first \$5 is a FW product which I thought was slightly interesting.

Had a nice chat on the phone today with Steve Feller. Steve is a specialist and expert on concentration camp notes. We might have a special event in the next two weeks with Steve at chat.

Have a nice day and hope to see you at chat tonight.

Fred

=====

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Hello,

Seven days till Memphis! Everyone is getting excited. Well most everyone, I am not because I cannot imagine how I can get the necessary work done in time. Guess I will just give up on it so that I can get excited too!

I missed yesterday's gram because of the pressures of the above work and negligence!

Then I got sick last night. Surprised me because I do not get sick often, but I was really sick. Got some miracle drugs and seem to be getting over it.

I cannot remember all of the topics that I had planned for this issue, but can touch on a few things.

I think that starting after Memphis, we will try reserving Thursday evening each week for a scheduled subject on mpc chat. Ideally, we can arrange for a special visitor on these Thursdays. Even regulars might step up to be a special visitor on a scheduled night to discuss a special topic. I am working on a list and will welcome your general thoughts and specific recommendations.

I thought I had reported the following item in one of the past few grams, but I just reviewed them and cannot find it. So at the risk of duplication here is sad news item.

The following MPC replacement was stolen from John Yassik at the January FUN Show. A few hours before it was stolen, he had given me the note so that I could record the serial number.

The next morning he asked me for the number because it had been stolen. I was more than a little mortified when I could not find where I had recorded the info. I found the notation in the past few days.

Today Leo May sent me John's email address and asked that I send John the gram which is what made me think of this again. So, now I can kill several birds here by telling (or repeating to) everyone about the stolen note and giving John the number too (as well as welcoming him to the gram).

The stolen note is a Series 641 \$10 in very fine condition SN J00455901 pos 7. It goes without saying that we should watch for this note including on ebay and the other electronic auctions. (John, sorry that it took me so long, I felt REALLY bad about it).

The theft was accomplished by a classic switch operation when John was not at the table (it was attended by a non numismatist assistant).

I will be on the road for the next three days on a buying mission. I will try to give some reports from the road.

My cell phone should be able to reach me at most times and places. I do not publish this for the obvious reasons, but am please for gramers to have it. Feel free to call me at (419) 349-1872. I am not so sure how well the message function works when I am out of the home area, so please do not count on that!

Have a great day!

Fred

=====

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Hello,

Well I continue to get confused. The following gram was sent out only about 15 minutes ago as gram 39. One of the stories mentioned therein described how I could not find something. Well, the reason that I could not find it because it was in gram 39 which was "lost." Of course as soon as I then crated a "new" number 39, I found the original. So I decided to make it more confusing by trying to correct the situation!

I will leave the redundant report of the stolen replacement in this replacement gram. The easiest way to handle this is probably to just delete the second gram 39 that you recieved which should have arrived only shortly before this one.

Sorry about the confusion. The following is a complete retransmission of the item sent previously (and erroneously) as MPC gram 39.

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Hello MPC fans,

I am on my way to Dallas to see a collection. I will have more on this in the next few days.

I sure was confused on yesterdays gram. Sorry.

First some news. Have you heard the distribution plans on the 691 / 701 sets? Well here it is. Bona fide collectors can order a set of eight notes for \$2000. Send payment made out to the American Red Cross or the USO (United Services Organization).

Send the payment to Doug or Marcus. If you do not have either mailing address or have other questions, you may contact them at papermoneyworld.com. For now they are for sale only to bona fide collectors. Of course this leave some room for interpretation and dispute, but I did not make the rules. Neither do I enforce them. In this case I am just passing them along.

I suppose that I am obliged to give an opinion too. There was lots of discussion about the price and other aspects too and of course I do have some opinions, not real strong ones, but opinions.

First, the notes are wonderful and all MPC collectors must be thrilled that this is happening. However, it is possible to have a collection without them by simply defining the collection as being of issued pieces.

Compared to the distribution of the 651 fractional notes, the seller and agents here are being very forthright. However, there are still lots of questions. These all boil down to how many notes are there. The report is 50 sets. Reading between the lines, it seems that there are more notes. Possibly not more sets. Possibly partial sets etc., but this always leads to doubts. It is also unclear to me what if anything is still held by the government for possible use (issue?) or distribution in other ways or even destruction and possible liberation as happened here.

I just do not know the answers here. If 50 sets is the answer, \$2K is cheap. 1000 sets and the downside nightmare will be met. Of course the in between is less certain. Probably at 100 sets and the price is still good, but most of us would still be a little (or alot) angry after being told that there were 50 sets.

The bottom line seems to be that it is worth the risk.

(Aside to Marcus, you may feel free to forward this to DS)

There was discussion on chat that MPC coverage in the BNR is too thin. That made me smile. I do not necessarily agree. However, there are some things that you can do about that. First of course, you can write an article or five. It is surprise how easily you can generate an article even if you do not have any great new discovery. Just an article about how you got started in MPC, or that great find, or that fantasy find can find interested readers.

If that is not your style there is another very important and easy thing you can do. Instead of complaining, do something innovative--reinforce the appropriate behavior! When they do run an MPC story, write (snail or email) and praise the editors for running it! Trust me this is important!

A comment was made that notgeld gets more coverage than MPC with the inference that that is terrible. Interesting. First, there is an argument that MPC IS notgeld! Furthermore, worldwide there certainly are more collectors of "notgeld" than of MPC. In the US, I am not sure about the relative number.

Well, thanks for your time. I hope to hear from all of you soon. I hope to make it to chat from the road. The gram will be sent from Dallas tomorrow.

Fred

=====

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Hello all,

I just had a nice phone call from a fellow who has a few Allied military currency specimen booklets for sale. That is of course nice, and interesting too, but there is more.

He has had the booklets for a long time. The booklets include an expedient set of the lire notes. This is only the third such booklet reported, none of which were reported even 10 years ago. These are very interesting items. It is particularly interesting in that they were part of a group of "regular" manufacturers booklets. The other two expedient s came as singletons which allowed no hint of provenance.

The story gets better! The fellow bought these sets a number of years ago at a GUN show. The fellow from whom he bought them had a small group of these booklets so the buyer thought that he would buy one of each which he did.

Now that is an interesting story and it makes all of us think "why could't that happen to me!" I often discount such stories as being the product of bad memories or concocted to support some personal agenda. I always figure that the items must stand on their own merit anyway so that it does not make much difference what the story is. In this case though it is very interesting, because it is exactly the same story told to me by another collector just a few years ago. Both of these guys must have found this same dealer and his pile of booklets.

How many were there altogether? Where did they come from? Where have they gone? Are any left? Those and other questions remain unanswered. They are things of dreams!

Have a great day.

Fred

=====

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Hello MPC fans,

This is being sent from the road. I am in Dallas visiting the widow of Alex Kessleman. I expect to obtain the rest of his collection for sale. This will be the third time that I have had some of the material. This should just about finish it.

Alex was a great collector. His name is still known and respected in the hobby. Most of you will identify with him even though most of you started collecting after he died! Alex was the purchaser of the first Series 651 set sold by Ted Uhl. It was guaranteed by Uhl to be unique. It was sold by mail bid sale. You can find a full page advertisement announcing the sale in the Bank Note Reporter. I am sorry that I cannot even estimate the year.

Anyway, the sale price was something like \$16,500. Alex got a partial refund from the widow when Ted died, but still Alex had a high price in his set. Indeed, that set is still among his things. I do not know what Rona will want to do with that set. If she lets it go at today's prices, I may keep it in my collection as an historic set, or I might sell it with the pedigree information. Either way, I think that this information should stay with the set as part of the lore of MPC collecting.

I will certainly let you know how things go. I expect to have some of the notes in Memphis and will of course be selling them via direct sale and ebay too.

Have a great day.

Fred

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MPC Gram

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Vol 1 Number 44

June 12, 2000

News and Views

Wow, what a weekend I had! As you know I visited Mrs. Kesselman. I was able to arrange to buy the balance of Alex's collection. It includes a wide range of wonderful material. I will have some of it at Memphis but I expect to sell most of it here in the gram and on ebay. Stay tuned to both. We can also use it as a vehicle to discuss many other issues.

After visiting with Mrs. Kesselman, I visited Doug (Wiz) Bell. Boy what a great trip. Of course you already know that the Wiz is a great collector, so we just had a great time. He and his bride greeted me while sporting MPC Fest tee shirts! Made me wish that I had mine!

We studied Doug and Alex's collection as well as told lots of lies. For the first time I got to see the now-famous 691 and 701 MPC. I certainly have some comments only some of which I will share now.

First, I am not sure that I have adequately described how exciting I think that all of this is. By the time that I have made it to the keyboard, I have possibly gotten too analytical and not expressed the emotions. THIS IS GREAT STUFF. THIS IS A GREAT TIME FOR MPC COLLECTING. THIS IS FUN. THIS IS EXCITING. I LOVE it!!! The release of these sets is a dream come true. Most of us have dreamed about this for a long time! I have no idea how it will all work out, but it is wonderful.

Now back to earth. As Marcus mentions in his BNR article, it is possible to differentiate between the first and second printing for series 691 by inspection. However, I am not as confident as he seems that this is a perfectly reliable system.

The notes D0 look different, but there are many factors. The most obvious is that one printing was manufactured in 1970, the other in 1984. Obviously one has aged more than the other, but that is not likely to be the answer. Probably different printing presses were used in 1984 than 1970. This could make a difference.

There is always the possibility of differences throughout the course of manufacturing. We know that there were differences throughout the manufacturing of Series 681 \$20s so similar situations could have developed here. Without having samples spread throughout both printings, we probably will not be able to rule this out.

However, there is still something else. Doug and Marcus had reported from the beginning the amazing way that the serial numbers react under ultraviolet light for the 691 and 701. Well, Doug and I studied this.

It is even better than indicated. Yes, there is a significant reaction around the serial numbers under UV. It is almost as though a serial number window had been created with some special UV ink. However, under incandescent and sunlight, I could not find any evidence of such a printed window.

Then we discovered that this phenonemna is only on the second printing notes! It is not found on the first printintgs! I think that this is an important observation. I believe that this was an enhanced security feature about which we have more to learn. It also proves that there were some "deliberate" differences in the manufacturing of the two printings so it should not be surprising that there are apparant differences. Wow.

I certainly look forward to more study on my own and especially by you and other collectors as the sets get spread around. There is no telling what we might learn--or at least observe!

=====

Letters

We need your letters for publication in this section. Suggestions, complaints, whatever you like, throw it at us.

Dear Gram,

Sure happy that I finally started using a computer so that I can get the daily gram and chat too. Hope to see you and everyone at Memphis!

Paymaster (aka Leo May)

=====

Ask Profski

Military Professor of Currency Larry will answer your questions about military money here. He may also just give his opinions on things so it will be a big help for us to keep him on task if you will send us your questions about military money.

Calendar

In this section we will highlight MPC chat, MPC Fest, and MPC gram events. Other events will be mentioned as they get close. For planning purposes see the papermoneyworld.com calendar of events.

Chat tonight 10pm eastern.

Memphis is only a few days away and everyone is getting juiced. I hope to see many of you there. Those who cannot attend, please stop at chat each evening starting at 10pm eastern.

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Mission statement

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This section includes military material for sale and notices from collectors and dealers wanting to buy material. Items for sale will be included until further notice at NO charge. The notice must include a specific item for sale. Routinely the notice will appear only once in the gram. Then it will be forwarded to papermoneyworld.com for listing.

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Statement of philosophy and mission. The MPC Gram is a FREE publication sphonsored by papermoneyworld.com and BNR Press. It is distributed free to anyone who is interested. It is intended to promote the study and collecting of MPC and other military money. Although it is distributed for free, all rights are reserved. Subscribers are invited to keep a copy of the gram in an electronic and or paper version for their own use. Further distribution by photocopy or electronic means is not authorized without specific coordination with the publisher and author where appropriate.

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Treasure hunting

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You can help make the gram successful by sending notices of things for sale. It is my hope that we can have something new every single day!

BR

please respond to this address or to fred@papermoneyworld.com

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MPC Gram

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Vol 1 Number 45

June 13, 2000

News and Views

Preliminary news in from Long Beach is that 691 and 701s were there and a big hit. Some of the information is conflicting about the sets that were there. We need a report from someone who was there. I will ask Ed B. to give us a report. [Aside to Ed B, can you PLEASE give us a report on MPC at Long Beach? Thanks.]

Chat was very interesting last night. We had some first time chatters as well as many of the old timers so that was good. Also had some good content.

Some of the discussion was about the designs of the 691/701s and which were liked the best. My own favorite and that of many is the 701 \$10. It is certainly a beauty, but so are the others.

Some copies of MPC Series 692 are being sold on ebay as counterfeits. I have not looked at these, but it brings up the subject of counterfeits. It seems that the pieces being offered are probably very modern computer products. As such they are worthless, but there are lots of interesting points to consider.

Contemporary counterfiets made to bilk servicemen etc during the time of issue. These are as opposed to counterfeits made to bilk collectors. I guess that a third category is fantasies like these that are simple copies [probably] not intended to bilk anyone. The quality of these is so poor that they could not fool any experienced collector. However, the line between collector counterfiets and modern fantasies is getting closer because of current technology.

Contemporary conterfiets are justifiably of interest to collectors. Indeed, they are an unofficial part of the MPC system. I like them and have some in my collection. However, as with many things, the quesstion comes down to "what is it worth?"

I have a somewhat controversial opinion on this. I believe that even the best conemporary counterfeits can only be worth a small price. These days that might be as much as \$30. There is danger in paying more. If counterfiets are worth say \$100, then we are encouraging someone to create counterfeits and sell them as counterfeits. Few laws would be broken in this case. Sure this might be a violation of the Hobby Protection Act, but getting enforcement using that would be difficult at best.

What are your thoughts?

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Letters

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Military Professor of Currency Larry will answer your questions about military money here. He may also just give his opinions on things so it will be a big help for us to keep him on task if you will send us your questions about military money.

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Chat tonight 10pm eastern.

Memphis is only a few days away and everyone is getting juiced. I hope to see many of you there. Those who cannot attend, please stop at chat each evening starting at 10pm eastern.

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Wanted

Dealers keep you name in front of the serious collectors and support the gram at the same time! You can advertisie here to buy MPC, replacements, whatever you like. Your add can appear in 701 issues for only 461 dollars! You may include material

please respond to this address or to fred@papermoneyworld.com

MPC Gram

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<P>Vol 1 Number
45 June 13, 2000</P>

<P>News and Views</P>

<P>Preliminary news from Long Beach is that 691 and 701s were there and a big hit. Some of the information is conflicting about the sets that were there. We need a report from someone who was there. I will ask Ed B. to give us a report. [Aside to Ed B, can you PLEASE give us a report on MPC at Long Beach? Thanks.]</P>

<P>Chat was very interesting last night. We had some first time chatters as well as many of the old timers so that was good. Also had some good content.</P>

<P>Some of the discussion was about the designs of the 691/701s and which were liked the best. My own favorite and that of many is the 701 \$10. It is certainly a beauty, but so are the others.</P>

<P>Some copies of MPC Series 692 are being sold on ebay as counterfeits. I have not looked at these, but it brings up the subject of counterfeits. It seems that the pieces being offered are probably very modern computer products. As such they are worthless, but there are lots of intersting points to consider.</P>

<P>Contemporary counterfiets made to bilk servicemen etc during the time of issue. These are as opposed to counterfeits made to bilk collectors. I guess that a third category is fantasies like these that are simple copies [probably] not intended to bilk anyone. The quality of these is so poor that they could not fool any experienced collector. However, the line between collector counterfiets and modern fantasies is getting closer because of current technology.</P>

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MPC Gram

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Vol 1 Number 47

June 16, 2000

News and Views

Wow, we are having a hoot here at Memphis. Where can I start? Joe Boling, Doug (WIZ), Marcus Turner, Marv M., and many others are here. The 691/701 MPC are a real hit. Marcus Turner completed his basic MPC set, where do I stop?

Brace yourself for this. Marcus was holding back on one of the great items from the 691/701 hoard. Yesterday he showed a Series 691 \$20 REPLACEMENT! It is serial number 900! Wow, it will take your breath away!

The International Bank Note Society meets Saturday morning. Guido Crapanzano from Italy will take over as president at the society tomorrow. Guido is a great friend of collectors. While he is certainly not specialized in military money, he has tremendous knowledge about many different issues and has been the source of many great discoveries as well.

In a surprise move he was honored with a presidents award by the American Numismatic Association at the breakfast meeting of the Society of Paper Money Collectors this morning. The award was actually made by gram receipt and ANA director John Wilson. Guido was touched by the award.

MPC collectors are everywhere and having a ball. The Smythe auction with MPC is tonight. This is the one with the Series 471 \$10 error as described by Smythe. I told you that I did not think that it is an error. Profski and I studied this note for a long time and the Smythe people were very gracious in allowing us to examine it. The note has clearly been washed and pressed which certainly undermines it. On the other hand I could not find the clear evidence that I expected to dispute it as an error. Nonetheless, I conclude that this is not an error. I will be at the auction tonight and will try to report tomorrow on the results.

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MPC Gram

Vol 1 Number

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nbsp; June 16, 2000

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MPC Gram

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Vol 1 Number 48

June 17, 2000

News and Views

I am preparing this gram on Friday night while I wait for the MPC to come up in the auction and for someone to show up on chat.

Just had dinner with Ian Marshall, Joe Boling, and Harold Kroll. Of course we told a lot of MPC stories and a few lies too I suspect. I hope that I can remember some of these for future grams.

When you have a little time, look up lire Allied Military currency in World War II Remembered. One of the interesting notations therein is about a few sets that are known with matching serial numbers. These were found a few years ago. Well, perhaps more than a few years ago. Anyway, a few sets are known. It is particularly interesting that they were not all uncovered at the same time. After the first one was found and reported, a second report was generated and so forth. I do not have the book here and I do not remember which ones have been reported, but a new set has been found. This one is serial number 65. You may want to mark this in your book. I did not see it, but Ian Marshall saw it and reported it. This is another wonderful find. I love it.

Congratulations everyone! The auction just finished a little while ago (well, quite a while ago). The so-called major error did not sell. I was afraid that some unsuspecting mail bidder would get stuck with it, but we seem to be smarter as a group than people might think.

Other items were mixed. The CU 692 \$5 went high at over 400 but the groups of replacements went rather low. It was quite late when the MPC came up which did not help the sale I suspect.

Saturday is always a very buCU day here. I am exhausted and excited about the prospects! I do not know about chat for Saturday night. I was on early then late here without finding anyone, sorry I missed you if you were on chat. Perhaps I will see you tomorrow!

Have a great day.

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MPC Gram

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Vol 1 Number 49

June 19, 2000

News and Views

Mericle/MPC Win in Memphis!

Marv Mericle's exhibit of MPC won the Krause Publications award for the most inspirational exhibit at the Memphis Paper Money Show. The exhibit featured Marv's complete set of MPC—all 15 series! This is the first time that sets of Series 691 and 701 have been exhibited at numismatic events. The exhibit is a zinger!

Marv has exhibited his collection before, but he has refined it so that it not only includes the new material, but also is much more attractively arranged. The exhibit is a zinger!

Marv announced at the M2C2 meeting that he will not only display the exhibit at the Philadelphia, but also that he has planned some innovative changes for the exhibit. I can hardly wait!

Exhibiting at shows is a great way to spread the word about MPC and to have fun too! I have done it for years and suggest that you try it!

I am exhausted from the Memphis show. We will have tons of things to discuss from the show over the coming days and possibly even weeks.

I look forward to your thoughts, questions, comments, or whatever on Memphis or anything else for that matter.

You should find three attachmens to this gram. This is the first attempt at illustrations for the gram! They are of Marv receiving his award from David Harper at the M2C2 meeting at Memphis.

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MPC Gram

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Vol 1 Number 50

June 20, 2000

News and Views

Somehow, MPC gram 50 was wrecked by the technology gremlins. Fortunately, I had most of the text available so here is a second attempt to send it.

Congratulations Marcus! Yes, congratulations are in order to Marcus Turner for completing his collection of regular issue MPC. There are several particularly interesting aspects to this completion.

He is the first collector (at least that I know of) to complete a collection since the "release" of the 691/701s. Of course several collectors who had "complete" collections before the release completed their collections again by obtaining the "new" notes, but that is not the case here. Marcus had the 691/701s before he had the other 90/94 pieces. The last piece that he needed is particularly interesting. Think about this for a moment before I tell you.

The last piece that Marcus obtained for his regular issue set was the Series 651 \$10! Congratulations, Marcus!!

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MPC Gram

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Vol 1 Number 51 June 21, 2000

News and Views

The M2C2 (Military Money Collectors Club) Meeting was a wild success at Memphis. I believe that it had the highest attendance of any society meeting there! This is even more amazing when you consider that M2C2 has no dues or officers. On the other hand, perhaps that is at least partially why it is so successful. Of course M2C2 does have two great advantages.

First the organization centers on the most wonderful of numismatic collectibles—MPC and similar material. Second, it has a great worker in the person of Marv Mericle. Marv has done a great job of creating, reproducing, distributing, and otherwise parenting the newsletter.

If you do not receive the M2C2 newsletter, you must send Marv a long self-addressed stamped envelope each time that you receive an issue. The envelope is then used for the next issue. This is a somewhat controversial system, but it is also a great system. It reduces work for Marv because he does not have to create and affix labels or stamp envelopes and of course it saves a little money for the nonexistent treasury of M2C2 at the same time. However, the most important aspect is that it forces more communications between "members" and editor. You are encouraged to include the most trivial of news or whatever with your envelopes for inclusion in the next newsletter.

Of course this particular M2C2 meeting could (and did) emphasize the discovery/release of the 691/701s. Marv and Doug gave their versions of the story. They were very similar to the one told by Marcus in the Bank Note Reporter, but there was some supplemental information and it was great to hear it in person too.

The hit of the meeting was quite amazing. It was a wooden box from the shipment of Series 691 to Korea. It was marvelous the way the group lined up at the end of the meeting to see the wooden box. It did not have any markings to identify the contents as having been MPC, but it still captivated the cattle (can you hear me mooing?).

Thanks Doug and Marv for your presentation!

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MPC Check from Korea from the 1960s. These checks are payable in MPC rather than dollars. They are the more scarce Type 1 MPC check. You can have a pair of checks, one each from Seoul and Taseu Bank of America Military Banking Facility. These checks are an important part of MPC collecting. The pair for only \$25.00 postpaid. E-mail fred@papermoneyworld.com to reserve your set.

Wanted

Dealers keep you name in front of the serious collectors and support the gram at the same time! You can advertise here to buy MPC, replacements, whatever you like. Your add can appear in 701 issues for only 461 dollars! You may include material for sale too if you like.

Do You Yahoo!?

please respond to this address or to fred@papermoneyworld.com

Send instant messages with <http://im.yahoo.com/> to Yahoo! Messenger

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MPC Gram

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Vol 1 Number 52

June 22, 2000

News and Views

The big M. That is what the show was. That could be M for Memphis and that makes a lot of sense because it is THE place for paper money at this time of year.

Then again it could be the big M for MPC because this was the MPC show of all times with lots of notes, collectors, discoveries, and fun.

But, the big M really was for Marcus! Yes, this was the Marcus show. He came into the show ridding high from the 691/701 escapade including his article in the Bank Note Reporter. Then he completed his collection as I mentioned earlier in the week.

Now I will tell you the "rest of the story." He tantalized everyone who would stop to look with his Series 691 \$20 REPLACEMENT! Yes, replacement! Just about everyone had asked about replacements after catching their breath on being informed of the "release" of 691/701s. Marcus gave many different answers on this. I think that he told many of you about this note and even sent most of you a scan of it. But not me, no, Marcus wanted to keep me on the string and measure my jaw drop in person. Well, I think that we broke the drop record.

After waiting for weeks, Marcus could hardly wait to show me. I knew that something was up when he dragged me out of the hallway to show me something, but I was not prepared for the beauty of this 691 \$20 replacement. It certainly is a beauty. On top of that it has the spectacular serial number 900! What else can I say? It speaks for itself. I expect that Marcus will make a scan available on line if we ask him real nice. Please, please, please, Marcus!

I am going to be on the road for most of the next week. I will try to get the gram out regularly, but there will be some interruptions. We certainly can use some input from some or all of you to help keep it going!

Please do not call any of my area code 419 numbers except the cell phone. I will try to keep it on during the trip, but I am

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Calendar

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June 22, 2000

News and Views

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Please do not call any of my area code 419 numbers except the cell phone. I will try to keep it on during the trip, but I am not good at retrieving messages on it.

Letters

We need your letters for publication in this section. Suggestions, complaints, whatever you like, throw it at us.

Calendar

In this section we will highlight MPC chat, MPC Fest, and MPC gram events. Other events will be mentioned as they get close. For planning purposes see the papermoneyworld.com calendar of events.

Chat tonight 10pm eastern.

please respond to this address or to fred@papermoneyworld.com

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Gram</font></strong><br></p><br><br><br><br>
<p align="center">=====<br><br></p><br><br><br>
<p>Vol 1
Number 53
June 23, 2000<br><br></p><br><br><br>
<p>News and Views<br></p><br><br>
<p>After Marcus Turner knocked me over with his great
replacement, David Seelye followed suite with another
great note. It was a Series 641 2 cent with serial
number J1111111J! Wow, it takes your breath away. I
think that he planned to ambush me too, but he was
much more subtle than Marcus.<br></p><br><br>
<p>He simply laid that little beauty in his case and
waited for me to see it and it did not take long. I
think that many of you knew about this ahead of time
too so you were all in on the deal.</p><br><br>
<p>Well, I got back at him a little bit. He was not at
the table when I saw it so I had the chance to compose
my reaction. When he came back to the table, I walked
up and pretended to notice the note for the first
time. I said something nice then said "Ah, glad that
you got the one that was missing from the set. I was
happy to get the others, but wondered what happened to
the quarter." Well, his jaw drop challenged my new
record, but I could not hold the joke and told him
that I was pulling his leg.</p><br><br>
<p>This is a great note. Not many really fancy numbers
are known for MPC and this is proably the best one.
The other candidate is a ladder illustrated in the MPC
book.</p><br><br>
<p>I have lots more comments to make on this solid,
but I want some participation froprobablyuys on this.
How many ladders were printed and [probably] issued
for MPC [exclude 691/701 for the moment]. I look
forward to your answers and will publish some of them
tomorrow or the next day.</p><br><br>
<p><br>=====<br></p><br><br><br>
<p>Letters<br><br>We need your letters for publication
in this section. Suggestions, complaints, whatever you
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events.<br></p><br><br><br><br><br>
<p>Chat tonight 10pm eastern.<br><br></p><br><br>
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SECTION 108(a)(3)).

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exclusion.robots.policy: 0.262

captures_list: 282.772

PetaboxLoader3.resolve: 207.455 (2)

load_resource: 237.822

LoadShardBlock: 260.784 (3)

exclusion.robots: 0.274

RedisCDXSource: 5.059

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=====Vol 1

Number 54

June 24, 2000

<P>News and Views

<P>
The most common MPC fancy number is a low number. Obviously the ultimate low number is serial number 1. One issued SN 1 note is in collections. There is a great story associated with this note--how I missed getting it! I published this story in the Bank Note Reporter and think that it might be in the book too, am not sure. If it is not, I will put it in next time.</P>

<P>There is also a specimen with serial number one in a collection. That note was found only a few years ago. The other numbers under 10 are a #3 replacement and an unconfimed #2 replacement.</P>

<P>There are not too many note reported under 50 or even under 100. Notes under 1000 are certainly desirable and quite scarce. Even notes under 10,000 are somewhat popular and collected by some of us nuts.</P>

<P>How many single digit notes were printed/issued? Well, for the "traditional" 90 piece set 810 regular issue notes were printed. Add to that the 810 replacements and the total is only 1620. That is certainly not very many and perhaps we should be happy that any have survived at all.</P>

<P>Frankly, I expect that some more number ones are out there in scrap books etc. These tend to find homes at the time of issue so they should turn up.</P>

<P>I expect that there should be some comments on this subject. Fire away!

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<P>Letters

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<P>Chat tonight 10pm eastern.

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<P>Treasure hunting</P>

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<P>This section includes military material for sale and notices from collectors and dealers wanting to buy material. Items for sale will be included until further notice at NO charge. The notice must include a specific item for sale. Routinely the notice will appear only once in the gram. Then it will be forwarded to papermoneyworld.com for listing.</P>

<P>

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<P>You can help make the gram successful by sending notices of things for sale. It is my hope that we can have something new every single day!</P>

<P>For Sale</P>

<P>MPC Check from Korea from the 1960s. These checks are payable in MPC rather than dollars. They are the more scarce Type 1 MPC check. You can have a pair of checks, one each from Seoul and Tagueu Bank of America Military Banking Facility. These checks are an important part of MPC collecting. The pair for only \$25.00 postpaid. E-mail fred@papermoneyworld.com to reserve your set.</P>

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MPC Gram

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Vol 1 Number 55

June 24, 2000

News and Views

Flemming Hansen from Denmark collects MPC and World War II items as a part of his general world paper money collection. Flemming is our only subscriber from Denmark.

Flemming makes the following very interesting report.

There now is known two examples (according to the auction company) of Danish AMC 100 kroner WITHOUT the Specimen overprint. One piece was auctioned off on May 1, 2000 at Thomas Höiland Auctions in Copenhagen for DKK 47000.00 = \$5754.25 + fees. (For Danes = + 25%). A photocopy is on the way to you through the mail. The serial number is D/01 474102. It seems that those notes with or without the specimen overprint are out of the same batch of about 10 notes. The other note I know without the overprint is on display at The Danish National Bank. Next time I go to the Bank I'll check the serial number of that one, and report it to you.

The 100 kr denomination is a great note and this is exciting news. Flemming, thanks for the report, we look forward to further reports.

I am still on the road. I do not expect to be home till Wed or Thursday, but I hope to be able to stay in conact at least a little.

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please respond to this address or to fred@papermoneyworld.com

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<P>Vol 1

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MPC Gram

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Vol 1 Number 56

June 28, 2000

News and Views

Well, I am back from my most recent traveling. Of course I have lots to report, but in all honesty, not as much as usual in these situations! I will start ranting about the trip and other things tomorrow, but after several several days without a gram, I thought that I better get something out!

My mail box seems pretty empty of responses about the number of MPC solids that were printed. I will give all of you another few days, but I sure would like some responses! Come on Phil, this is right up your alley!

Someone told me that "deep source" was on chat last night! That is a exciting turn of events or a great prank by someone. Seems that his identity was challenged and that it was indeed he (no indication at all that the source is a woman). He logged onto chat as Mr. 691. I was told that he did not particularly like the title/name "deep source." Of course I like DS because I thought of it (at least I think that I did and I am claiming it).

Well, Mr 691 is a nice name too, but it is a same to over look series 701 so perhaps the former DS should use Mr. 1392 (691+701). Ok, Mr. 691 is a fine name and I will try to use it in the future.
Mr. 691, if this finds its way to you, welcome to chat! I for one hope that you will come back often! We are going to start scheduling special events and we would love to schedule a chat session with you. That one might break all chat records! Marcus or Doug can arrange it if you like.

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Letters

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<P>Vol 1

Number 56
sp;
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nbsp: June 28, 2000
News and Views

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MPC Gram

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Vol 1 Number 57

June 29, 2000

News and Views

I had a few more thoughts about Mr. 691 and his identity. That name reminds me of a c. 1946 movie about an old gentleman who also just happened to be a counterfeiter. The name of the movie was something like Mr. 440. I checked a movie guide and even looked online, but I could not verify the title. I will bet that Joe Boling or someone else will know the title. If none of the old folks remember the title, I will bet again that one of the young folks can find it (the title) on line. Please help with this.

Most (or all) of you know David Seelye. He is fun to watch when he throws his abundant energy into researching something! At the moment he is excited about Seamen's Overseas Service notes. These enigmatic notes have been known to (a few) collectors for a long time, but very little is actually known about these notes.

The first report of these notes appeared in the Bank Note Reporer (I think) in the early 1970s. That notice was basically just a picture with a plea for information. No serious information has been forthcoming in all of this time. See page 412 of WWII Remembered for illustrations and a little bit of speculation.

The current theory is that these were MPC-like issues for merchant seamen probably in the 40s and 50s. The only notes seen are from Series 3 which raises the wonderful questions about series 1 and 2 (not to mention Series 4).

David has been studying the notes that he has found. He has found that some (all?) of the notes have a manufacturers watermark. He definately needs more reports to unlock just the watermark situation.

The notes that I have recored in my book are \$1 SN 004026 and \$10 009509 in fine and about uncirculated respectively. Dave want to receive more reports. Please DO NOT SEND THEM TO DAVE! Instead, send the reports to the gram and we will list them here where Dave can read about them!

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Calendar

In this section we will highlight MPC chat, MPC Fest, and MPC gram events. Other events will be mentioned as they get close. For planning purposes see the papermoneyworld.com calendar of events.

The next major show is the American Numismatic Association Convention (August 9-13). This year the convention will be in Philadelphia. 25 years ago the ANA convention was one of the major events for paper money. Now with the development of so many successful paper money shows (and of course the MPC Fest), its importance has diminished, but it is still an important show. Because it is such a big and important show, you cannot help but find some good paper there. Marv Mericle has promised that he is going to introduce some innovations there with his exhibit of MPC.

I will be there the entire time and will be pleased to chat MPC with you!

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MPC Gram

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Vol 1 Number 58

July 5, 2000

News and Views

Where have you been? Ok, I am the one who has been missing. Sorry. I went out of town for a holiday chess tournament. I intended to send grams from the hotel and participate in chat too, but as you probably know, I did neither. Sorry!

Of course I have tons of things to discuss, but I can only start here now.

One interesting thing in the mail is a beautiful catalog from John Pettit. It does not include a single piece of MPC, but it does include lots of interesting World War II/military items. You probably should request a copy of the catalog by writing John at jpettit@accsoft.com.au. The catalog does not state anything about request policies, but I think that if you ask, he will send you one. I suppose that you should mention that you read about his catalog in "The Gram." That ought to make him scratch his head!

This catalog might generate some questions and/or comments for the gram. Certainly there are some notes therein on which I will be commenting in the days ahead.

I played very poorly at the tournament and did not have ANY numismatic adventures along the way! That is a very unusual occurrence for me (the poor play was not the unusual part).

I expect to be on chat tonight and look forward to seeing you there!

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Calendar

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Chat tonight 10pm eastern.

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please respond to this address or to fred@papermoneyworld.com

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MPC Gram

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Vol 1 Number 59

July 7, 2000

News and Views

This gram was created yesterday. I thought that it was sent yesterday too but everyone jumped me at chat about a missing gram and investigation reveals that I did not receive my own "check" copy, so I guess that someone goofed in the mailing department. We will extend everyone's subscription by one issue to make up for the missed day!

I missed an important anniversary last week. Harold "dead meat" Kroll celebrated the first anniversary of his first MPC purchase! While a year may not be a long time in the big picture, it has been a very big year for Harold and an important one in the history of MPC collecting. It is interesting that they coincide so closely.

Of course lots to discuss most of which will continue to be delayed. There is lots of "chat" going on about the BEP replacement of the AMC 1 yen note currently on ebay. I will try to discuss it tomorrow. It was also discussed at some length a few nights ago on chat. Heck, Tom, you could write us a great article on this note by simply summarizing the chat and adding a few insights and even questions! (aside to Tom K, received your good letter and will use the information and comment on it soon--stay tuned).

Doug Bell reports finding a third printing Series 521 50c. I think that this is only the second one seen and is a great find for Doug. He reports the additional interesting information. He nearly missed it because the number is very close to the dividing line and the numbers on the cheat sheet were not clear enough. He had to consult the complete figures to be sure. (He got the numbers from the June BNR, but could also find them at Phil G's web site.)

The other reported 521 50c changed hands last week too. I guess that makes it 521 week! The missing link is the 472 50c second printing. It will be major news when one of those is found! Heck, it might be in your collection right now! If you have one of these with a SN greater than 4,032,000, you have a great find, and we want to hear about it!

As reported below, there is a change in the plans for the ANA convention.

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I will be there the entire time and will be pleased to chat MPC with you!

Chat tonight 10pm eastern.

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MPC Gram

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Vol 1 Number 61

July 10, 2000

News and Views

Wow, people really do read the gram!

Bill M. went to his collection after we wrote about multiple printings here and found a wonderful 521/3 50c note. In unc no less. Way to go Bill! There is a very good chance that there are more guood "multis" in your collection! I am certain that I have more good ones burried around here. I should have fun for the next few years just digging through my own stuff, not to mention all the good treasures at shows etc. Remember, look hard at those 471 50 centers. We really want to find one of those!

The BEP 1 yen AMC continues to move along on ebay and we have received seveal more responses and inquires based upon our article. Mr. S. point out that my comments might have been a little confusing (no change I suppose). Anyway, no, there never was a B-H replacement. However, when the BEP printed the B-B notes, it might have used B-H. In fact, if the H system had been used, it would have had to have been B-H. Anyway, the BEP used B- for the one printing of 1 yen replacements.

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Letters
more letters tomorrow

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I will be there the entire time and will be pleased to chat MPC with you!

Chat tonight 10pm eastern.

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MPC Gram

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Vol 1 Number 61

July 10, 2000

News and Views

Wow, people really do read the gram!

Bill M. went to his collection after we wrote about multiple printings here and found a wonderful 521/3 50c note. In unc no less. Way to go Bill! There is a very good chance that there are more guood "multis" in your collection! I am certain that I have more good ones burried around here. I should have fun for the next few years just digging through my own stuff, not to mention all the good treasures at shows etc. Remember, look hard at those 471 50 centers. We really want to find one of those!

The BEP 1 yen AMC continues to move along on ebay and we have received seveal more responses and inquires based upon our article. Mr. S. point out that my comments might have been a little confusing (no change I suppose). Anyway, no, there never was a B-H replacement. However, when the BEP printed the B-B notes, it might have used B-H. In fact, if the H system had been used, it would have had to have been B-H. Anyway, the BEP used B- for the one printing of 1 yen replacements.

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Letters

more letters tomorrow

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Calendar

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Chat tonight 10pm eastern.

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MPC Gram

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Vol 1 Number 62

July 11, 2000

News and Views

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Gram to go world wide. Well we have been at this for awhile and there seems to be interest in the gram so we will keep it up-with your help. Therefore, we have decided to expand operations. We will send out a news release to every paper money oriented print and electronic source that we can think of. In the news release we will offer free subscriptions to the gram and notify the world about MPC chat. Gulp.

Brad P. (shotgun) is drafting the newsrelease for us. You are invited to offer ideas for the release (or criticisms etc). Please send them to us or directly to Shotgun. We will probably publish the draft of the release here first so that you can have a chance to criticize it then! It will also fill up a gram or two! Actually, filling the gram is not a problem. I have plenty that I can write about, but we do want more from each of YOU.

OK, I will try one more time. As many of you made sure I knew, I got the BEP yen scheme wrong again. The replacement blocks for Stecher-Traung are H-A (not A-H). I just was not focusing on that part of the deal. Oh well.

=====

Letters

Joe B. and Neil S. wrote about Mr. 880. Neil wrote that he had not seen it on television for a long time.

Joe Boling had lots to contribute on the subject. He wrote.

Ken Hallenbeck has apparently seen "Mr. 880" on video, or else remembers it very well. He specifically asked that the Secret Service agent who taught the course on detecting counterfeit US pm at the ANA summer seminar bring one of Mr. 880's notes to the seminar. The agent not only brought a note, but also a plate (not for the same note--apparently this fellow created more than one plate). The name Mr. 880 comes from the Secret Service file number that was assigned to the case; the counterfeit note that was brought has 880 typed on it.

[Aside to JEB, tell us about the counterfiets. How good are they?]

=====

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MPC Gram

Vol 1

[illegible]

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MPC Gram

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Vol 1 Number 63

July 11, 2000

News and Views

A collector named Rusy sent the following letter to Phil G. with a copy to the gram. It includes lots of interesting stuff we are sharing it here. Since he sent this letter he has sent a few more so it looks like Rusty may become a regular gram correspondent. [Rusty, PLEASE do not quit your day job.]

I have a Series 681 .25-cent, sheet pos. no. 80 with SN; C 08701946C, in ch cu condition. I received it direct from our unit paymaster on "C-day" and put it away immediately (as I did with most of three sets--except for some stupid reason I did not keep 5's, 10's or 20's -- it was not 'cause I needed the money; I was a collector then). I think it was because the bulk of my pay went as an allotment to my wife, the rest went direct to a bank account drawing 10% interest (remember those) and I got about \$50 in cash to run my life for the month. Actually that was more than I needed. So, I received a few big bills which were spent, not saved. Oh well! Thank you for a very complete web site. It has helped fill in some information gaps.

Rusty's experiences are not much different from many others, mine included. I was in Vietnam for Series 692 and did not bring back a piece although I was a numismatist. Subscribed to Coin World throughout the time that I was there. I have lots more stories on this that I will share as time goes on. We would love to have your stories too.

=====

Letters

Dear Gram,

Mr. 880's counterfeits were not very good, though I would have liked to see one printed from the plate that was brought (a 1928B plate--the note that came was a 1935x). The agent said that 880 had more than one plate.

Joe

=====

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Trading post

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MPC Gram

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Vol 1 Number 64

July 12, 2000

News and Views

Your editor is off for a little family vacation early on Thursday morning and things are terribly hectic here. I will be in Hawaii from the 13th through the 26th. I hope to get the gram out most days but I do not know for sure what the telephone situation is in the condo. I DO however know the number so I CAN receive your calls both for business and pleasure. Indeed, I am sure that I will be delighted to have an opportunity to chat live with fellow collectors while I am there.

Below are the phone numbers for the condo and my cell phone. Do not hesitate to call either at any time if you have a bid deal on which I can make a lot of money or you have a great item for my collection. If you just want to chat, well use a little more judgement on when to call!

Cell phone (419) 349-1872, condo (808) 875 0575.

Some great gram features are in preparation here at HQ and by readers, so please stay tuned and fire off some of your own thoughts and ideas!

Tonight is the time for the close of the BEP AMC 1 yen replacement. To make it even more fun, it will be closing during MPC chat time! I expect that it will be subject to lots of discussion and I look forward to it!

=====

Letters

Dear Gram,

Right now cannot do the chat room as my machine at home is older than dirt and will not connect to the world. I live too far from the office to just run in & hook up. So----- . Am looking at upgrading sometime during this century. What do I give up in order to afford the connection - the cable tv or the long distance phone? (I know, the paradox. I buy MPC yet complain about the cost of the Web).

Take care. rusty

Dear Rusy,

Sounds lik you have your prorities in the right place!

Gram

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MPC Gram

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Vol 1 Number 65

July 13, 2000

News and Views

There has been a lot of interest in the last few weeks about the Japanese AMC. This has been fueled somewhat by the offer of the One Yen BEP replacement on ebay. The Japanese AMC can be confusing to the new collector since three printers contributed to printing the series--the BEP, the Japanese Finance Ministry Printing Bureau and Stecher-Traung. Of all the companies that printed MPC and AMC, Stecher-Traung is probably the company that we know the least about. Books have been written about the BEP and the American Banknote Co, articles about Forbes and we are uncovering more each year about the problems that Tudor Press had while printing MPC. But little has been found about Stecher-Traung other than that they printed most of the Japanese AMC in San Francisco, CA., used an italic "S" for a printers mark and Prefixed replacements with a "H."

Knowing the lack of information on Stecher-Traung, I was amazed when I came across a window sticker for the 5th War Bond Loan that was printed by these folks. However the credit at the bottom of the sticker reads "Stecher-Traung, Rochester, N.Y. 6,075M-5-8-44. Does that mean that S/T had a printing plant in New York? Or could this simply be a field office and the work was done in California. Not many items have been found that can be attributed to this printing firm. So keep your eyes open, as you never know when you might find something like this. By the way, the date of 5-8-44 is just prior to the start of the 5th War Loan which ran from Jun 12 to Jul 8. The 6,075M could possibly indicate a printing of 6,075,000. since the goal for the 5th War Loan was \$16 Billion of which \$6 Billion was targeted to individuals. If anyone has any knowledge of a Stecher-Traung plant in New York, we would sure like to hear about it. --Larry

Attachment: image/jpeg

Attachment: image/jpeg

Numbers while in Hawaii: Cell phone (419) 349-1872, condo (808) 875 0575.

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Trading post</P>

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MPC Gram EXTRA

July 13, 2000

News and Views

It is over. In a flurry of activity the AMC 1 yen BEP replacement that has been the center of so much speculation for the past week has been sold at a record price of \$2575. Collector MPCKid had a come from behind victory and withstood a furious charge in the last 20 seconds!

It was exciting to watch! MPC Chat took a virtual timeout to watch the action. As the moments ticked away a few side bets were made but mostly everyone was just excited.

Immediately after the auction in an exclusive Gram interview the Kid said that he was breathless. He also noted that he had jumped into a new area of collecting with "both feet as usual."

He was also heard to have said something about following the rules. This comment refers to an inside joke between the kid and your editor. It is our opinion that if a collector owns a great note (especially a replacement) like this one, the collector is honor bound to collect that are seriously!

Congratualtions Kid.

.....

.....

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MPC Gram EXTRA

[illegible]

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MPC Gram
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Vol 1 Number 66

July 14, 2000

News and Views

Trouble in Paradise

4am departure for airport after no sleep, 1 cancelled flight, 1 changed flight, three hour delay, two CENTER seats on an 8.5 hour flight and eventually we arrived in paradise--then the problems started!

At 11pm local time (0500 eastern/body time) the condo failed the cleanliness test by the well known inspector and keeper of standards. What a night that was. Now 14 hours and two additional condos later, one has passed inspection!

Remember Fred, you are having FUN. Right. Well the phone number that I gave you obviously is not correct. The correct number is (808) 879-4681. I tried the cell phone for outgoing calls without luck, so I do not know (yet) if it will work for incoming calls.

Yikes! What a time. I will try to include some substance tomorrow.

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Letters
Your letters needed.

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MPC Gram

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Vol 1 Number 67

July 16, 2000

News and Views

Fancy numbers, part 1

It hardly seems possible, but it has been a few weeks since Memphis already. Amazing, and things are still jumping. We reported that one of the interesting "finds" at Memphis was the solid number that David Seeyle sprang on me. I was unprepared to see this wonderful note. It seems that everyone else knew about it and everyone enjoyed surprising me with it! David played it perfectly, he simply placed the darn thing in his case so that everyone could have the fun of "finding" it.

I was indeed surprised. It is beautiful. J11111111J. Wow. The beauty and significance of this note speak for themselves, however, there is some analysis that can be done.

It is the first solid number MPC that I have ever heard of (other than 00000000 for BEP specimens). Obviously it is beautiful, rare, and desirable. But how rare is it?

Approximately 1 billion certificates were printed and issued (excluding 691 and 701—not issued). One billion serial numbers provide for 90 solid serial numbers and this is approximately the number of (non replacement) solid number serial numbers printed per billion United States Federal Reserve note.

However, the billion MPC serial numbers are spread over 94 different issues so far fewer solids were printed. For a solid to have been printed, the minimum quantity must have been 11,111,111 notes. Only about a third of the 94 notes had this minimum number printed! Obviously, the magic numbers for solid twos and threes are 22,222,222 and 33,333,333 respectively. No issue had a printing of over 40 million so no solid fours (or higher) are possible.

The following solid ones were printed and presumably issued:

461 \$1, \$10

471 \$1, 10

472 \$1, \$10

481 5, 10, 25¢, \$1, \$10

521 5, 10, 25¢, \$1, \$10

541 5, 10, 25¢, \$1, \$10

641 5, 10, 25¢, \$1, \$10

661 5, 10, 25¢, \$1

681 5, 10¢, \$1

692 5, 10¢, \$1

In addition, the following solid twos were printed and presumable issued:

461 \$10

481 5, 10¢, \$1, \$10

521 5, 10¢, \$1, \$10

641 5, 10¢

661 5, 10¢, \$1

681 \$1

692 \$1

Finally, two issues allowed for solid threes:

461 \$10

661 \$1

In summary, the following solids were printed and probably issued:

Solid ones-37

Solid twos-16

Solid threes-2

Total solids-55

To be continued.

=====

Letters
Your letters needed.

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MPG Gram

Vol 1

Number 67

July 16, 2000

News and Views

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MPC Gram

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Vol 1 Number 68

July 18, 2000

News and Views

Solid serial numbers--part 2

This entire discussion has been about issued MPC as opposed to unissued pieces. The situation with Series 691 and 701 is somewhat different. The same principals apply to the number of pieces printed. Only a few were printed. None were created in the first printing, but the second printings should have created solid ones for the \$1 and \$20 denominations. This adds four notes to the list of possibilities.

For all of the earlier series, discovery, retention, and survival were more-or-less random activities. Even if a finance clerk had an opportunity to search unissued stocks of notes, it was still necessary to pay (face value) for the piece and then safeguard it over the decades when it had no particular value. These factors greatly reduce the likelihood of survival of any more of the 55 solid numbers for issued series.

Mr. 691 [seems to have] had the opportunity to sort through the entire inventories of series 691 and 701 and to pull notes that interested him. Perhaps he even still has the opportunity to pull some or all of these numbers! Furthermore, perhaps even more significantly, it is likely that he knows or can reconstruct whether any of the possible solids were saved! Wow!

Of course it goes without saying that these solids are rare and desirable. Heck, it was a thrill just to SEE the solid at Memphis. Are there any more? Well, that is certainly a good question. A few near-solids have appeared in the past few years. Well, OK, I really only remember one but I have a nagging feeling that I have seen another. The one that I can confirm was serial number 08888888. That is on a Series 692 10¢ note.

I certainly hope that more of the solids come to light because it will give more collectors a chance to own one, heck, it will give more a chance to see and even own one! If pushed to make a prediction, I would guess that more will be found! It will be an exciting day when it is found. It is part of the fun of collecting that we have no idea when or if it will happen. Even more significantly is the fact that every time we open an envelope of notes, or turn a piece over to see the face, there is a possibility that we will find another solid (or other significant number). This is great fun!

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Letters

Your letters needed.

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Calendar

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I will be there the entire time and will be pleased to chat MPC with you!

Chat was not operating Sunday night. I do not know what the problem was, but it should be "fixed" for Monday night.

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Trading post

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MPC Gram

<P>Vol 1

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MPC Gram

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Vol 1 Number 69

July 21, 2000

News and Views

Ladder notes are very similar to solids with respect to the number printed. Ladders are notes with serial number 12345678. Serial number 01234567 is also a ladder, but generally not quite as desirable as the other type although there is no real good reason for this distinction. Partial ladders as 00012345 are also interesting and popular, but much less so than full ladders.

One of the most interesting aspects to me is that the full ladders lend themselves to analysis. In order to have a 12345678 ladder, a note must have had a printing of at approximately 12.5 million pieces had to be printed. For the "traditional" 90/94 piece set of MPC, that means that 32 ladders were printed.

However, for 01234567 ladders, only 1.24 million pieces (approximately) were needed for the creation of a ladder. This means that all issues had 012... ladders!

Just as with solids, retention is one of the most important considerations. Ladders were less noticeable to users and in my opinion somewhat less likely to have been saved and retained.

Here is an interesting additional twist. At least a few 0123... ladders were printed in replacement form! It is not certain how many of these were printed, but there were at least a few. For examples, position 71 of sheet 1567 of the second unit (of 8000 sheets) would be serial number 01234567. Study/analysis of the replacement survey data should make it possible to estimate how many of these "short" replacement ladders were printed. However, no such replacements have been reported in collections.

Be sure to check the trading post below.

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Letters

Your letters needed.

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MPC Gram
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Vol 1 Number 70

July 22, 2000

News and Views

Without question, the most popular fancy numbers are low numbers, most specifically, notes with serial number one-00000001. The other numbers below 10 and even 00000010 itself are very popular.

It is very easy to figure out how many of these were printed because, obviously, every issue had all of these numbers. In addition, these same numbers also appeared on replacements for every issue.

Two serial number one notes are reported in collections. The first reported was a Series 471 5¢. This note is illustrated in the MPC book. There is a great story about the discovery of this note. The story appeared in the Bank Note Reporter in the 1980s.

The second number one is of a Series 481 5¢ replacement-specimen. This piece first appeared in an R. M. Smythe Co. auction just a few years ago. It is particularly interesting because it is a specimen. Because of this note, it is tempting to guess that the first sheet of replacements was routinely used for creating specimens, but I do not believe that this is the case.

One each serial number 2 and three are known in collections, both of these are replacements.

Experience in other types of paper money tells us that serial number 1 is commonly saved at the time of issue by officials who have the opportunity to obtain the notes. The small number of ones (and other very low numbers) seems to refute this conclusion, but I am not so sure.

First, I believe that many of these notes were initially segregated and saved at the time of issue. However, in order to have survived for collectors, MPC number ones have had to survive for a few decades. This survival is similar to many other types of paper money, but of course there is one other important aspect. In order to be in a collection, MPC had to survive a conversion day. It seems almost silly today, but I am sure that many number one \$5 and \$10 certificates survived for eighteen months only to be surrendered on conversion day.

Nonetheless, I believe that at least several more number one notes survive. If this is so, where are they? I believe that they exist in scrap books and among other souvenirs of former military personnel who are NOT numismatists. Many, but not all, of these people were finance workers.

The frustration-and beauty-of this situation is that these notes cannot be found. You cannot search for them. They will come to the surface on their own!

All of the above discussion concerns issued MPC. The situation with Series 691 and 701 is somewhat different. We do not know for sure if Mr. 691 sorted and saved any of the ultra low numbers, but I suspect that he did. I hope so.

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Your letters needed.

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MPC Gram
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Vol 1 Number 71

July 23, 2000

News and Views

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing issued an MPC item on July 4. It is a souvenir card featuring the vignette of the submarine Thomas Edison that appeared on the back of the Series 681 fractional denominations. The card is part of the Bureau's souvenir card program for 2000.

There are several particularly interesting aspects for MPC collectors. The vignette is specifically attributed to MPC by the BEP and I believe that this vignette was specifically engraved for use on MPC. It is not well known that MPC vignettes and designs were engraved even though the final production was by lithography.

Len Buckley, retired chief of the BEP design division, explains that this was done because it is the best way to get great line art to be used as the final copy. A few of the vignettes that appeared first on United States or Philippine paper money are available for comparisons with the lithographed-MPC versions. I think that this is the first time that an MPC specific vignette has been available for collectors.

The card is being sold by the BEP for something like \$5 each and I certainly recommend that all MPC collectors obtain at least one of these. You can dig around and find the details on ordering these from the BEP or I will pick one/some up for you this summer at the ANA convention. I will pick up a bunch of these so you do not even need to order in advance. I will offer them when I get back from the convention.

There is a twist. The Bureau also produced 100 (I think) hand pulled proofs of this vignette. The BEP has a wonderful scheme that it uses at major conventions. Special souvenir versions of various vignettes are produced on hand operated spider presses. Each hour the Bureau holds a drawing. The winner of the drawing is entitled to purchase one of these souvenirs for \$50! Wow, what a scam you might say. Well, it gets better. Because of the demand for these cards, there is an instant secondary market. Dealers and collectors are present at every drawing and typically offer the winner \$100 for the cards! Most of the dealers who buy these cards do so on behalf of collectors who have ordered them before the show. Prices vary, usually \$150-200.

You have probably guessed by now. The submarine vignette was created and sold in the way described above at a major west coast STAMP show in July! I have not seen one of these yet, but course you can expect that I think that this is wonderful.

=====

Letters

Dear Editor,

Why do you bad mouth Series 691 and 701 fancy numbers? Isn't a solid number a solid number?

Keep up the good work on the gram.

Thanks,

MPC Kid

Dear Kid,

Thanks for the comments. You might be right, but perhaps not.

Regarding 691 and 701 fancies, I have been trying to make a point about what I see as a difference between obsolete issues and current/unissued issues.

Certificates from obsolete series are subject to the factors that I have discussed over the past few days: initial discovery, retention through conversion, and discovery by collectors. Current and unissued/reminders do not experience the same life cycle. Basically, it is much easier to obtain these special items for current and remaindered issues.

Of course, current issues become obsolete issues! I was in Vietnam during the use of Series 692. I did not bring home ANY high values. I was a serious numismatist, but I did not consider a \$10 or \$20 MPC worth the FACE value for my collection! Replacements were available, but I was not even smart enough to look for them. Even if I was knowledgeable enough, it is unlikely that I would have kept more than one each of the high values—assuming that I was able to find them. Familiarity breeds contempt I suppose.

I hope that this answers your question. I look forward to more comments on this and other subjects.

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MPC Gram

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MPC Gram

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Vol 1 Number 72

July 25, 2000

News and Views

This is the last gram from paradise. I had expected to get a serious gram prepared, but it just did not happen. I am only a few minutes from departing and will not likely get another gram out till Wed, so I figured that I had better send out something!

We started the MPC Gram as a whim. I did not think nor intend that it would really become a regular item. Well, here we are more than 70 issues later.... Now I wonder about the name of our little eLetter. Certainly we cover more than MPC so I am not real comfortable with this title. However, I do not have another in mind. We are about to send out newsreleases to the various print numismatic publications about the gram, so if we are going to change it (the title), now might be an ideal time.

What are your thoughts on this not very earth shattering problem?

We have some interesting things brewing so watch your mail box in the next week!

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MPC Gram

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Vol 1 Number 73

July 26, 2000

News and Views

Ready for prime time (?)

A few nights ago in chat, we discussed sending a news release to the Bank Note Reporter and other traditional/print publications about the gram and chat. Brad Shotgun volunteered to draft the news release which he has done. I have altered it some and asked Brad to include a testimonial if he was will which he was (gulp).

The text is included below for your comments, suggestions, criticisms. Please send them in so that we can make alterations and send this baby out.

Military payment certificate collectors have gone a little mad. In February they had an all MPC show, now they have daily MPC chat and a daily (well, not quite) newsletter! The MPC Gram is the daily, upcoming events, letters to the editor, and a trading post area where collectors can sell MPC and similar items at no charge. Subject matter covered includes more than just MPC. Allied military currency (AMC) and all other types of military and related emergency money are subject to inclusion. Unfortunately, the gram also sometimes includes the editors attempts at humor.

Best of all, the newsletter is free, but is distributed only by e-mail. Requests for subscriptions should be sent to MPCgram@papermoneyworld.com.

A common subject in the gram is discussion of events from the previous day's activities in the MPC Chat. MPC chat is the electronic discussion held every night at 10pm eastern time on the subject of MPC and military money. The MPC Chat Lounge is one of the services provided by papermoneyworld.com, the leader in developing internet-based paper money collecting services. It is an interactive meeting place for MPC collectors around the world to gather and discuss details about military payment certificates.

Usually the chat is an informal and unstructured meeting where the only requirement is an interest in the subject matter and courteous behavior. Normally, business is not transacted on chat, but a few transactions have been conceived there. Occasionally, special events have been staged in chat and others are planned as the concept evolves.

Brad Peacock, an MPC and small size note collector states, "This is a great meeting place! It was designed by collectors and is maintained by collectors, not some no-name internet company that doesn't understand what collecting is all about!"

The MPC chat lounge is the pilot for other specialty chat areas. Rooms are available for Confederate, national bank note, check collecting and other specialties too. Leaders are needed for these areas. Collectors who might be interested in leading these chat rooms or creating others should contact the web master, doug@papermoneyworld.com.

Anyone interested in participateing in chat need only go to <http://www.papermoneyworld.com> and follow the insturctions.

End of release

As most of you know, the condo inspector and I are back from our journey. Man was I tired (and sore too). It was one of those jobs that someone just has to do. Thank you for your various encouragements and patience while I struggled with a six time zone change.

Wiz is working on a new chat program. Several people have tried it and have good reports. The most important improvements that I know of are the it support Macintosh and that it does not require downloading of any software. That means that we can chat from Kinkos and similar places along the highway! (My wife will be really happy about that you can be sure).

Wiz has been testing it and is arranging a mac test. We will announce "conversion" to the "new new chat" here at least several times before it takes place.

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Letters

Hey Fred,

If we didn't have to come back from paradise sometime, we'd never know there was something to look forward to.

The MPC Gram name sounds just fine. It is readily identifiable and nice & short.

Question/comment. there any reverse order collecting going on - like 76543210? Now, I realize that some of the numbers are too high for feasibility. But there could be something like 000987654, etc.? I have never thought about the weird possibilities -- I've been too busy trying to find the ones in the short & long set that I don't have. Now, since you mentioned it, I have started looking at the scrip that I see in a different manner. Thanks for complicating my life -it is a good complication.

Hope your return from paradise isn't too traumatic.

rusty

Dear Rusty,

Paradise is a junk box, a long forgotten envelope of notes, a new variety, or a new serial number for the replacement survey!

Yes, there certainly is interest in "reverse" numbers. I should have mentioned this in the ladder discussion, but as you say, there are no real reverse MPC ladders but even 00654321 would be a nice find.

One of my own favorites in this area is the idea of finding the very LAST number for a note, the inverse of serial number one. This is MUCH harder to find. There was little motivation at the time of issue to save this note (compared to the number 1) and it is not recognizable to collectors without a book.

Phil Goldstein has started a survey to find the highest reported SN for each issue of MPC. I think that this is important research, first because it might help us find some discrepancies or give us some insight to number of notes ISSUED as opposed to printed. The other thing is that it may help us find a last note.

Editor

How about Mil-Gram? Covers all military, MPC and everything in between. Or Mil-Mail? Nah! I like Mil-Gram better but you will most likely come up with something better.

Neil S.

Dear Mr. S.,
Perhaps mil E gram, or mil-graEm? More thoughts and ideas are still needed. Thanks for writing.

Editor

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Do You Yahoo!?
Kick off your party with Yahoo! Invites.
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MPC Gram

Vol 1

Number 73

July 26, 2000

News and Views

Ready for prime time (?)

A few nights ago in chat, we discussed sending a news release to the Bank Note Reporter and other traditional print publications about the gram and chat. Brad Shotgun volunteered to draft the news release which he has done. I have altered it some and asked Brad to include a testimonial if he was willing which he was (gulp).

The text is included below for your comments, suggestions, criticisms. Please send them in so that we can make alterations and send this baby out.

Military payment certificate collectors have gone a little mad. In February they had an all MPC show, now they have daily MPC chat and a daily (well, not quite) newsletter! *The MPC Gram* is the daily, upcoming events, letters to the editor, and a trading post area where collectors can sell MPC and similar items at no charge. Subject matter covered includes more than just MPC. Allied military currency (AMC) and all other types of military and related emergency money are subject to inclusion. Unfortunately, the gram also sometimes includes the editors' attempts at humor.

Best of all, the newsletter is free, but it is distributed only by e-mail. Requests for subscriptions should be sent to MPCgram@papermoneyworld.com.

<P>A common subject in the gram is discussion of events from the previous day's activities in the MPC Chat. MPC chat is the electronic discussion held every night at 10pm eastern time on the subject of MPC and military money. The MPC Chat Lounge is one of the services provided by papermoneyworld.com, the leader in developing internet-based paper money collecting services. It is an interactive meeting place for MPC collectors around the world to gather and discuss details about military payment certificates. </P>

<P>Usually the chat is an informal and unstructured meeting where the only requirement is an interest in the subject matter and courteous behavior. Normally, business is not transacted on chat, but a few transactions have been conceived there. Occasionally, special events have been staged in chat and others are planned as the concept evolves.</P>

<P>Brad Peacock, an MPC and small size note collector states, "This is a great meeting place! It was designed by collectors and is maintained by collectors, not some no-name internet company that doesn't understand what collecting is all about!"</P>

<P>The MPC chat lounge is the pilot for other specialty chat areas. Rooms are available for Confederate, national bank note, check collecting and other specialties too. Leaders are needed for these areas. Collectors who might be interested in leading these chat rooms or creating others should contact the web master, doug@papermoneyworld.com.</P>

<P>Anyone interested in participateing in chat need only go to http://www.papermoneyworld.com and follow the insturctions.</P>

<P align=left>End of release</P>

<P align=left>As most of you know, the condo inspector and I are back from our journey. Man was I tired (and sore too). It was one of those jobs that someone just has to do. Thank you for your various encouragements and patience while I struggled with a six time zone change.</P>

<P align=left>Wiz is working on a new chat program. Several people have tried it and have good reports. The most important improvements that I know of are the it support Macintosh and that it does not require downloading of any software. That means that we can chat from Kinkos and similar places along the highway! (My wife will be really happy about that you can be sure).</P>

<P align=left>Wiz has been testing it and is arranging a mac test. We will announce "conversion" to the "new new chat" here at least several times before it takes place.
=====</P>

<P>Letters</P>

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<P>Dear Rusty,</P>

<P>Paradise is a junk box, a long forgotten envelope of notes, a new variety, or a new serial number for the replacement survey!</P>

<P>Yes, there certainly is interest in "reverse" numbers. I should have mentioned this in the ladder discussion, but as you say, there are no real reverse MPC ladders but even 00654321 would be a nice find.</P>

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MPC Gram
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Series 001 Number 74
July 27, 2000

News and Views

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I was particularly pleased to add the section on neutral nations to World War II Remembered. This was a concept that had not been explored in the past. Of course the classic neutral nation is Switzerland and there were a few important items to list for Switzerland. Now we have another. It relates to the compensation issue above. Throughout the war, various Swiss banks held assets for people from many nations. At the end of the war, when assets could be distributed, there was concern that that banks not aid war criminals and the like so some controls were instituted. These controls are little known nor understood. Few numismatic artifacts have been found relating to this situation, but there is at least one.

Some stock certificates have been found that were held by Swiss banks throughout the war. The backs of the certificates are stamped indicating that dividends were paid throughout the war. That is interesting, but hardly significant.

The interesting part is the certificate attached to the stock certificate. The text is as follows:

Swiss compensation office

Zurich

[serial number]

CERTIFICATE

The Swiss Compensation Office, acting upon instructions of the Swiss Government certifies that no national of Germany or Japan as defined in paragraph 6 of the letter of November 22, 1946, from the Secretary of the Treasury to Federal Councillor Detitpierre, has or has had an interest in the following securities since the respective dates on which the Swiss freezing regulations were extended to Germany and Japan.

[identification of the security]

[date stamp and signature, illegible (unfortunately)]

I think that these certificates are important and interesting items. Of course they raise lots of questions that we never even thought of before! Wow, what a great hobby we have! Of course these certificates will be listed in the next WWII Remembered.

Your thoughts on the above are certainly welcome.

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Series 001 Number

74

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MPC Gram

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Series 001 Number 75

July 30, 2000

News and Views

The Nazi Konversionskasse (Conversion Office for German Foreign Debts) has been little understood or misunderstood for several decades. The "notes" have been well-known throughout that period but still misunderstood. Now we know that the notes were part of a bigger, multinational system that included bonds and "fractional certificates" too.

Steve Feller (sfeller@coe.edu) has been doing great research on the KK and the results appeared in Remembered, but there are still many mysteries and holes in our knowledge.

Most recently MPC Kid (harbons@aol.com) has been working on solving one of the little riddles about the notes. The notes use the tantalizing text "series" with a letter. The use of this text would seem to mean that it something more than a simple block letter. On the other hand, the serial numbers have only seven digits making for a maximum of 10 million notes (ok, purists 9,999,999) for each series so it would seem possible that the series is simply a block letter. It certainly is possible, even likely that far more notes were necessary so the block number theory is solid. This is certainly true for the low denominations. However, the only recorded 1000 mark denomination is from series F indicating that more than 50 million notes were printed (issued?).

This denomination is very rare. In spite of the high denomination, if that many pieces were printed/issued I believe that we would have seen more pieces in collections. So what is the story?

I do not know. Kid has started to record the block letters of the notes in an attempt to answer some of these questions (and I am sure to create some more questions). Here is his preliminary results. Please check your notes for series that he has no observed and send him the info. Of course updates will be posted here occasionally.

Issue without 1934 stamp

Denomination-letters seen

5-A E

10-A C D

30-A

40-A D

50-D

100-B

500, 1000 not reported

Issue with 1934 stamp

Denomination-letters seen

5-A E

10-B D

30-E

40-A

50-A B C D

100-A D

500 not reported

1000-F

[aside to Harold, I highly suggest that you keep a record of who reports each series until you have multiple reports of a combination because there are certain to be questions and some of them will be the result of erroneous reports or recording.]=====

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MPC Gram

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Aug 1, 2000

News and Views

Was just looking at the 1961 [approximately, it is not dated] supplement to Military Currency W. W. II by Alfred Swails. The Swails book (pamphlet) was the first stand alone publication on military money. Swails published this supplement shortly after the basic item was published.

I think that we might have looked at this before, but it is always fun to do. When the supplement was published, MPC Series 591 had just been released and was added to the listings. The Swails evaluation of some of the earlier series are very interesting. He evaluated the Series 541 \$5 at \$7.50 in unc! Yes, you read that right, \$7.50. Perhaps even more interesting, he also remarks that it is rare!

This sort of relates to some of my comments about the 691/701 fancy numbers etc. At and near the time of "release" many items do not get much "respect." Normally, but not always, time "fixes" this situation.

I am sure that it would not have been easy to find a CU 541 \$5 after Series 591 had been issued. Freeman Craig imported three of these. Their history has been documented in the BNR, but I need to recreate that for inclusion here and in the next MPC book. Yes, there were three consecutive 541 5s in the Craig collection. He sold one to Ruth Hill in 61 or 62. He then sold the other "duplicate" to me in about 1974.

Hey guys, where are your reports of Series letters for Konversionskasse notes? I know that some of you have some of these out there! Send us your reports!

Letters

Your letters needed.

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MPC Gram

<P>
Series 001 Number

71
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bsp
Aug 1, 2000

News and Views

Was just looking at the 1961 [approximately, it is not dated] supplement to

Military Currency W. W. II by Alfred Swails. The Swails book (pamphlet) was the first stand alone publication on military money. Swails published this supplement shortly after the basic item was published.

I think that we might have looked at this before, but it is always fun to do. When the supplement was published, MPC Series 591 had just been released and was added to the listings. The Swails evaluation of some of the earlier series are very interesting. He evaluated the Series 541 \$5 at \$7.50 in unc! Yes, you read that right, \$7.50. Perhaps even more interesting, he also remarks that it is rare!

This sort of relates to some of my comments about the 691/701 fancy numbers etc. At and near the time of "release" many items do not get much "respect." Normally, but not always, time "fixes" this situation.

I am sure that it would not have been easy to find a CU 541 \$5 after Series 591 had been issued. Freeman Craig imported three of these. Their history has been documented in the BNR, but I need to recreate that for inclusion here and in the next MPC book. Yes, there were three consecutive 541 5s in the Craig collection. He sold one to Ruth Hill in 61 or 62. He then sold the other "duplicate" to me in about 1974.

Hey guys, where are your reports of Series letters for Konversionskasse notes? I know that some of you have some of these out there! Send us your reports!

=====

Letters

Your letters needed.

=====
Calendar

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I will be there the entire time and will be pleased to chat MPC with you!

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MPC Gram

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Series 001 Number 77

Aug 2, 2000

News and Views

I have been hearing a few comments that "things are slow." Mostly this has meant that there has not been as much "stuff" on ebay. Well, I suppose that it has been a little slow by the standard of the last 6-15 months--the most amazing period in MPC collecting.

This period of a few weeks in July in August has long been recognized as a slow period in numismatics. The general analysis is that this is because of the distractions of summer with kids being out of school and some many other (pleasant) things to do (some unpleasant ones like lawn mowing too). The other distraction is the ANA convention which is usually about the second week of August.

This is a distraction because a very large portion of the collecting population either goes to the show or is involved with those who do. This has changed somewhat in the past 10 years with the proliferation of paper money shows.

Last chance. This is your last chance to give some input on the news release about the gram and chat. We will send it out soon and would REALLY like some of your ideas!

===== Letters

Dear Editor,

What is the matter? You on strike?

MPC Kid

Dear Meat,

Have just been waiting for some letter!

Editor

=====

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MPC Gram
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Series 001 Number 78

Aug 4, 2000

News and Views

As you probably know, some of us really crazy collectors have been working on MPC sets with "special" position numbers. I have been working on a set with position one, MPC Kid position two, and Joe Boling position eight. A secret collector has been working on number 69. Doug Bell (Wiz) has twisted the concept so that he is collecting MPC with the position number the same as the denomination. All of these collections look really neat and we are all having a lot of fun with this. A LOT of fun. I told you that we are all crazy.

I am not sure who was the first collector to pursue this sort of thing. Perhaps it was Ed Hoffman when he started assembling series sets with the last two digits of the serial number matching. That is far from what we are talking about here, but it is a matching number system, so it might qualify as the ultimate ancestor of this type of collecting.

Many years ago a collector from the south collected any MPC with the number 33 on it, position number or serial number (anywhere in the number). Of course he wound up with lots of notes from position 33. Unfortunately, he seems to have dropped out of collecting and I do not know what happened to him or his collection.

My ultimate goal is to have a complete CU note from position 1, then I do not have to maintain another collection (not that my "main" collection is all CU). I figure that this project will take me the rest of my collecting days--possibly more!

I am pleased to get any note to fill my position number 1 set. I figure that I am lucky to get it. I have been working on this set for a long time, but when I started out, I went slowly, I did not work very hard at it. The change came at Memphis in 1999 (or possibly 1998) when I met Wiz for the first time.

His basic set of MPC included the worst 541 \$5 I had ever seen. Heck, it might be the worst condition MPC of any issue that I have ever seen. It was terrible. I loved it! You guessed it, it was from position number 1. Ultimately we worked out a deal where Wiz got a much nicer note and I got the position 1 note. That really got me going and I have been actively pursuing this collection since that time.

Along the way a number of people have offered me replacements from position 1 for my collection. I have included replacements in this set where I did not have a regular issue from position 1, but I do not intend to try to have a number 1 regular and replacement collection. At least it is not my intention now.

However, Wiz has been looking at the possibility of including replacements in his position-denomination collection. He and MPC Kid have been negotiating on one of these. They both went to the list of replacement serial numbers in the MPC book to see how many pieces were reported with position and denomination the same. I have said all along that I expected collectors to come up with uses for this list that I had not anticipated--this is certainly one of those!

Can we predict how many of these special combinations should exist in a list of 2000 notes? That should be an interesting study in itself.

Kid sent me a list of the notes. Eighteen of the 2000 notes fit this description (a nineteenth is not listed in the book). These 19 notes represent 10 different issues. In addition, 9 specimens representing 8 issues are reported. Mostly interestingly, none of the issues overlap so 27 different replacements/specimens are reported with position number and serial number matching.

Obviously, this indicates that finding the matches in replacements is not an easy task. Perhaps more importantly, it also

demonstrates how difficult it is to find these matches on regular issues!

All of this number hunting is great fun. Good luck guys!

A personal note. I have been sick for the past 48 hours. Turns out not to have been serious, but it laid me up so I have been out of touch, sorry. Will be working on catching up.

===== Letters

Your letters are needed, wanted, and appreciated.

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MPC Gram

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Series 001 Number 79

Aug 5, 2000

News and Views

I was under the weather for the past few days. That really put me behind schedule for the ANA convention and for the gram. I had planned a series of articles for the gram to be finished before I left for the convention. Then I would add a little commentary each day and send off a full gram. Now that I have not even started that series, I am not so sure. The grams might be a little sparse from the convention, but then they might not be. This would be an ideal time for those of you who are working on items for the gram to send them in so that I can incorporate them during the big do. Even if you are not working on something now, you can start NOW and have it for us within a few days!

Now is the time for all good collectors to come to the aid for their gram!

Of course there is always the possibility that I will get the series finished and have plenty of material. We will just have to wait to see.

Chat has been a little slow of late. I hope to be able to participate from the ANA and even have some live interviews. Specifically, I will try to get Joe Boling on one night. Leo May will be there so I can probably get him on chat and oh knows who else might turn up.

There were several questoins on chat about Allied military yen notes. In particular the questions were about AM 1000 yen notes. These are wonderful notes, full of interesting history and facts. Scarce/rare too boot.

I well remember the first time that I saw one of these notes. It was at an ANA convention sometime in the 1970s (so this is some sort of anniversary coming up). Joe Boling had found it with a dealer on the floor. Neither of us had ever even seen one!

I was stunned because it looked so different from the other denominations. That was as Joe quickly pointed out because the note is ENGRAVED rather than litho (offset). The design to be sure is modeled after the lower/litho denominations, but it looks very different because of the different technology involved.

This denomination was not introduced until late 1951 (see WWII Remembered for details on this). It was needed because of post-war inflation. In another twist, it was printed by the Japanese Finance Ministry Printing Bureau (Japanese BEP).

Between 1951 and 1958 five serial letters were used even though the capacity of lower orders were not exceeded when the next one was introduced. Not surprisingly, the earliest letters are the scarcest.

The earliest serious military money collectors were active in the early 1960s. That is only a few years after AM yen was discontinued. In fact, I am not certain when Ray Toy, Al Swails, Ruth Hill and others started collecting. Possibly they were collecting in 1958. Anyway, I believe that Swails managed to assemble a few unc or near unc sets of all five letters. I believe that he kept a set (naturally) and sold or traded a set to Ray Toy. That set was ultimately sold to Al Menke thence to Gary Snover/Stanley Gibbons of London. From there I believe it was sold to a private collector in England who still has it.

I do not know anything about the whereabouts of the Swails set. Indeed, perhaps there was just one set. At one time I believed that Ruth Hill had one of these sets, but I now think that she did not.

One current collector has managed to assemble four of the five letters (including the letter A). I knew a collector who had the missing letter and tried to arrange a trade just so the first collector would have them all. I gave up on that deal when I had some trouble with the receipt. So much for good deeds!

One of the tantalizing questions (specifically asked on chat) is about replacements. First I should mention that the JFMPB printed other denominations in addition to the 1000 yen. They are listed well in WWII Rem and easily identifiable by different serial number fonts and also somewhat different tints, but these are lithographed just like the US versions.

It seems quite clear that replacements were not created for AM yen printed in Japan. While it would be possible for them to have been created and not found for the 1000 yen denomination because of its scarcity, the same cannot be said for the lower values.

We know that the printing bureau DID use a replacement system during the war, so it would not have been surprising to have replacements for AM yen, it just seems that there was not. However, there is a slight chance that they were use and will be found. I could suggest that everyone examine all of their 1000 yen notes for special marks, but will refrain from that attempt at humor.

Well, that wraps up what I have to say about these notes at this time. I look forward to your additional questions.

Oops. Last time when I discussed MPC position number collections. I forgot one of the best ones. MPCski collects position 39. He says that is his age. I will let you be the judge on that, but he has done a great job with the number. He not only collects it in MPC but in many other areas and has amassed a nice collection of 39s!

===== Letters

Your letters are needed, wanted, and appreciated.

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MPC Gram
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Series 001 Number 80

Aug 7, 2000

News and Views

Today is an important day. Today is the 25th anniversary of Profski's 39th birthday! You will recall that he collects position 39 MPC. That is because 39 is his age and today is the silver anniversary of his first 39th birthday.

You guys will be jealous to learn what a sweet and wonderful wife he has. For such important events as this he gets gifts of items for his collection! His wife calls me and asks me to send her something for him. She tells me how much she wants to spend and I send her something.

Now here is the good part. It is SECRET. Keep it quite or he and I both could get into BIG trouble. When I see Ski after the event, I collect the rest of what he owes me for the item. He does not want his wife to know the scale involved in these purchases especially because he would have to reciprocate to the same scale! Remember, secret.

I am late to getting around to this, sorry. Wiz made some important discoveries as a show in Oklahoma a few weeks ago. Well, perhaps more than that, but it is important stuff anyway.

Be sure to take a look at his report at the link below. The picutes of MPC in use in Veitnam are spectacular of course, but what I really like is the counterfeit 681 \$20. It is the first that I have seen. It is a terrible counterfeit, but the part I liked the best is the serial number. It is astronomical! Far more than any printing of ANY MPC. I love it.

<http://www.papermoneyworld.com/doug/mpc/okcshow.htm>

Wiz, thanks for the report.

Chat has been slow as noted last week. I hope that we can get it going again. I think that the concept is great and that we can all bennefit from it.

===== Letters

Your letters are needed, wanted, and appreciated.

=====

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MPC Gram
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Series 001 Number 81

Aug 8, 2000

News and Views

The ANA pre show was poor at best. The location was bad but still it is one of those things that has become an institution.

I did very little business, but I did arrange a few deals that will be finished later in the week. You will hear about those as they happen. I concluded the day by driving to Atlantic City for an evening of meetings with Guido Crapanzano and another fellow. It is a tough job, but someone must do it! That is why I missed chat. We might get Guido on as a guest during the week. Ah that is an idea. Can you come up with enough questions about Italian notes for me to ask him to come? Can we get enough people to come to chat to make it worth while? Remember, there are lots more Italian miliary items than AMC, just take a look i the book!

Today is PNG day. This is a terrible scam by the big and powerful dealers. I do not want to get too much into the politics, but I attempt to not participate in PNG day. Nevertheless, there will be lots going on today and people to see so it will be an enjoyable day. I must admit that I am getting juiced!

=====
Mail call

Dear Editor,

The silence on the chat is deafening at times. Some thoughts:

1. Set a certain night aside every week for exclusive discussion on amc,jim, other wwII currency (everything but mpc)
2. Since the participants vary from east to west coast: what if we set the standard time at 10:00 est but set aside 11:00 for west coasters; that might keep the activity from waning. Of course, we have to get some west coasters to participate.
3. Is the primary purpose of the chat to inform and educate or just be a place for advanced collecto/ealers to send private messages, set up phone calls and otherwise transact mpc buy/sell/trade? I haven't reconcile the two in my mind yet would prefer it to be a place for learning from the "experts". For instance; maybe give some ideas of the current areas of reserach being conducted by certain participants. Then by reviewing "remembered" and notes held in collections a participant can make some worthwhile contributions.

Maybe everyone could contribute their own most wanted question: One of mine is: "If I have a specimen piece; how can I figure out where it was issued?" Probably impossible but food for thought.

Keep in mind that I am not the typical well heeled dealer/collector so I need a bit more to keep me interested. No offense intended by any of this but just wanted to share some random thoughts.

with respect,

Tom

Dear Tom,

Thank you very much for your comments. Hopefully others will chime in with their ideas.

editor

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Trading post

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MPC Gram
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Series 001 Number 82

Aug 9, 2000

News and Views

MPC Show (oops, ANA convention) opens in Philadelphia Wed. Tuesday was PNG Day and set up day. I had a great time. Only spent a few hundred dollars so far, but it has been great and several other important opportunities are in the works. Hopefully, you will hear about these at the week continues.

I have seen lots of old friends including MPC collectors today and expect to see many more tomorrow and later in the week.

Chat this evening was particularly good I thought. Joe Boling was a guest of honor from my hotel room here in Philly. I thought that we had a good chat. I expect to be at chat at 11pm eastern this week except Thur and possibly Saturday. Might check in at midnight on those nights. Will also try for some more guests of honor.

Wed should be much better as the convention really gets underway. There is just so much to do and so much fun to have.

Other news is breaking too so we will try to include some other reports this week, but it will be difficult.

Most of you have my cell phone number (419) 349-1872. My hotel number is (215) 829-8300, room 1507. Call if there is something hot.

===== Mail Call

Your letters are needed, wanted, and appreciated.

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Calendar

In this section we will highlight MPC chat, MPC Fest, and MPC gram events. Other events will be mentioned as they get close. For planning purposes see the papermoneyworld.com calendar of events.

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Series 001 Number 83

Aug 10, 2000

News and Views

Another exciting day. I am exhausted. I did not do much business throughout the day, but talked to a lot of people and saw some wonderful things. I hope that I can remember half of the things to relate in the next few weeks/days.

I received my BEP submarine souvenir card. They are nicer than I expected. I will buy a quantity of the "regular ones" that you can buy at the issue price of \$5 plus post. Just let me know if you want one/some. You can also wait till you want to buy something else and save the postage because these "regulars" will not run out soon. Like I said, the hand-pulled items are nicer than I expected too, and I am happy to have one (of the 100 made). If you want one of these, order them now and you can have one of them for \$175. Probably will ask \$200 if they make it home from the show.

I bought a very minor MPC error today. It was so minor that I considered not buying it, but it does have several important aspects.

The note is a Series 541 \$1 with the serial number of the next note transferred (in part) to the back. These are nice errors if you can make out the next number in the last digit. This proves that it is a transfer instead of a "soak through." In this case, it is questionable if it is possible to make out the next number. However, otherwise it is fairly clear so I bought it.

This is an example of how important it is to look at the back of notes. Too often there is something significant that we miss by just not looking! Notice the backs.

Here is a tip that has not yet been published. Series 541 is particularly prone to errors! Give them special attention when you see them.

Man, chat was terrible Wed night. No, that is not exactly correct, MPCKid and I had a nice chat, but did not see anyone else so I was disappointed. It is not likely that I will be on chat till midnight Thursday, sorry. If I am just too tired, I will not even log on.

Some of you will appreciate this story about Judy the condo inspector and cat lover. We had dinner tonight in a nice place in the center of China town (right next to the hotel). She probably was not surprised to see the lobsters in the tank inside the door. However, she was decidedly unhappy with the turtles, frogs, snails, and other "pets" that were also in tanks! Still, she was not willing to go vegetarian for even this one meal!

Have a great day!

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===== Mail Call

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MPC Gram

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Series 001 Number 84

Aug 11, 2000

News and Views

Activity at ANA conventions intensifies on Friday and Saturday. Much of it is not directly related to finding and acquiring, but it is still a very busy time. Crowds might be down a little today from yesterday (big crowd, reportedly approaching 10K), but will pick up again on Saturday.

Bill Y from Pa was at the show Tuesday. He is a great new MPC collector (but veteran numismatist in spite of his young years). He turned a lot of rocks looking for notes and added some pieces to his collection. Took home a lot of reading material too.

His coin club has arranged a bus to come to the show on Saturday, but he could not wait. He and his girlfriend had the day off on Thursday (probably not by chance) so he drove the 2.5 hours to the show. In his own words, he "could not wait." Now do not get me wrong, they are both coming back on the bus.

Well, let me clarify that. I am CERTAIN that he is coming back and she has a spot reserved. She is an unmarried MPC widow!

Wed a fellow holding a bundle of 100 681 50c notes stopped at my table and asked where he could find David Seelye. I saw the notes and volunteered that I would be happy to help him (take the bundle off him), but he said that he had already made the deal with David. Ouch. I was jealous, but happy for Dave. Turns out that it is a bundle of 99 only, but it did have the band.

Lots more to report if I can find the energy to do the report much less make the deals.

===== Mail Call

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Series 001 Number 8

Aug 12, 2000

News and Views

Friday was a very busy day for me at the convention as I expected it would be. Mostly it was in meetings and things not directly related to not searches, but it was also mostly enjoyable.

There were also som serious disapointements. I did not get the lot of AMC that I had been working on all week. It had some very nice notes and I think that one was an important upgrade for my collection. I am not happy about this, especially because I held the opportunity in my hand but tried to be cheap. It hurts.

Thursday I went through an intersting group of circ 692 20s. Nothing special but I found three pieces that I thought should go home with me and now I am disapoined in two of those. Guess things are not going as well as I had hoped. SN E03958222E seemed to be very near the end of the first printing which I was thinking was 4 million. Now that I have checked, I find that it was 4.8 million so this is not so interesting. I figured that E06255120E had a very good chance of being the highest number reported, but now that I have checked it against Phil's survey, I find that it is not so I am disapointed in it too.

At least the last one speaks for itself, but possibly it is so silly that I should ot mention it. If you think that it is neat, let me know. If you think that I am just crazy, do not write that! It is SN E01570156E. I think Shotgun helped determine that it is something like an reverse semi ladder. Actually, we came up with a better (funnier) name, but I forgot it.

I have some other things to discuss, but I have forgotten them because of the latness of the hour, sorry.

[Aside to MPC west, I received your message and am saving the item for you.]

==== Mail Call

Your letters are needed, wanted, and appreciated.

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Series 001 Number 86

Aug 13, 2000

News and Views

I am sure that you are tired of hearing me say it, but Saturday was another great day. Tons of people. The attendance at the show so far was announced as 18,000. I think that the best every before this was 12,000 or perhaps 11,000 and we have at least half a day to go.

Bill Y was here again and his lady came again even though I thought that she would not not. She did find a real shopping mall so I did not lose faith. Bill found lots of things and has promised a lengthy report very soon.

I talked to the guys for the Green Sheet. New MPC and replacement reports are scheduled, but that is not the interesting news. They are considering putting MPC in EVERY issue along with the rest of US paper money. That is a very interesting idea. I am not 100% in favor of it, but still it is at least interesting. I sure look forward to your thoughts on that.

Austin Sheehen is a former owner and publisher of the Bank Note Reporter. At one time he had an MPC collection. He sold it as he pursued other collections. He restarted his collection at 2:30 pm August 12 in Philadelphia. Austin is a good collector who will contribute a lot to the hobby. Welcome, Austin.

I bought a few more interesting items today, including, gasp, some coins. WWII, but coins. Will tell you more about those later.

To my way of thinking, one of the most significant finds of the show was a 521 \$5 from the second printing. It is in the collection of a collector who did not even know about multis till I told him. I thought that he was going to be willing to trade it to me, but that fell apart when he figured the vf note at over \$10K!!!!!!????? I was so flabbergasted that I did not even get the serial number. There is no excuse for this transgression, but that is what happened.

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MPC Gram
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Series 001 Number 87

Aug 15, 2000

News and Views

Well the 2000 ANA convention is history. It was indeed a great one as you know from my excited messages.

I made at least one more nice purchase on Sunday and had a few more adventures, but I was happy to see the show end because I was tired!

He trip home has been an adventure too! I am still on the road somewhere in central Pennsylvania, but I will be home tomorrow (Wed, chess night in PC).

Spent Sunday night in New York (state) north of Manhattan. Monday I had two disappointments.

I found a listing in a regional phone book for a shop in Croton on Hudson for coins and militaria. That sure sounded interesting so I made the trip. Found the place without too much difficulty (actually with lotsa luck). The sign in front was even more promising. Coins, paper money, militaria. Wow, throw me in the briar patch. Guess what, closed Mondays! Drat.

Then I had to hang around to have a family dinner in order to keep peace. It about killed me, but at the earliest possible moment, I got away and headed north for a meeting with Phil IWANTMYMPC. I was excited about the prospect of exchanging notes and lies.

Well the coordination got mixed up and after a two hour drive (one way) the meeting fell apart. However, there was some good news. We were able to conclude an important deal on the phone. A full report will follow on that in a few days. Today was to be an interesting one too. I visited the US Army museum at West Point. I did not expect to find any money missing links, but I did expect to find more and better things than I did. It was a disappointment.

Lots more to report from the show and other things so stay tuned!

===== Mail Call

Dear Gram,

How about getting some lists together of who needs which JIM notes by letter? I would like to improve my holding and perhaps I have some duplicates I would trade for others needed. Might also be some new information coming from individuals who may have seen previously unreported letters- like the PI 1 peso PJ Specimen I saw some time ago (and did not get).

Neil

=====
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MPC Gram
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Series 001 Number 88

Aug 16, 2000

News and Views

I expect to be home in a few hours. That should be exciting too. I expect to find a mountain of mail and lots of phone messages too. Then of course I have lots of things to do to followup on the convention.

Phil (and the rest of you too) will be happy to know that in spite of what I said in an earlier gram that I did get the serial number of the second printing 521 \$5 that I saw at the show. That was really an interesting experience. The owner thought that it was worth a fortune, but he sold me some replacements at reasonable prices. Go figure. I did not expect to get onto chat at all on Tue night, but I could not resist so I sang in for awhile once I got into the motel. It was a little slow on at first, but it picked up later. I expect to be on tonight, but possibly a little late. Sure hope to see you there.

===== Mail Call

Dear Gram,

I think that it is very interesting that the Green Sheet wants to put MPC prices in every month. That shows an increase in interest, especially among dealers. The first report should be quite interesting and especially so regarding the 691s and 701s. Some people will certainly be upset.

Shotgun

Dear SG,

Thanks for the comments. Yes, it will be an interesting project. I hope that we can get a little dialog going here in the gram about the philosophies of this much less on the actual numbers.

Fred

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MPC Gram

Series 001

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MPC Gram

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Series 001 Number 89

Aug 17, 2000

News and Views

Well, I am finally home. It seems like I have been away forever. I certainly had a lot of fun and spent a lot of money too. Now I have a ton of work to do.

Chat on Wed centered on the matter of MPC prices in the green sheet. Specifically, the idea of putting MPC prices in every month. Among the other ideas was the suggestion that I send out a questionare in the gram so that everyone cant have a try at it and some input. Will think about that idea, but I doubt if we would get much response because it is a lot of work. On the other hand I might be surprised and every bit of input will be appreciated anyway.

The monthly thing is not certain at this point, but I will need help for the regular report anyway. Have a great day.

Hope to see you at chat tonight (Thur).

=====

Mail Call

Dear Editor:

Congratulations to the American Numismatic Association for one of the top convention's ever. Thanks to the ANA Convention Department headed by Brenda Bishop and the rest of the dedicated staff in Colorado Springs, ANA Public Relations Director Stephen Bobbitt, the National volunteers, excellent security, the local committee chaired by William "Bill" Horton and his dedicated workers and the host clubs. A special thanks to the title sponsors and patrons. A very special thanks to the ANA Editoria Staff. All their pre convention coverage in The Numismatist assisted with bringing in the record crowds. This ANA World's Fair of Money will set convention standards for many years to come.

With attendance near 21,000, extraordinary exhibits - up front near the entrance, a well lit convention center, exceptional numismatic theatre, club meetings, great youth programs, and dedicated exhibit judges this convention had it all. The ship of gold, Bowers & Merena auction, world mints and bureaus, a YN world series, an authors table, and extraordinary tours all added to the convention. U. S. Mint Director Jay Johnson, along with other dignitaries from around the world made for a great 109th ANA Worlds Fair of Money. The theme for the convention "Memories Last a Lifetime," was certainly appropriate; as this one will go down as one of the best ANA's ever. Our hat goes of to anyone and everyone connected with running this convention.

Yours in Numismatics, John and Nancy Wilson

Dear Editor,

If you're gonna put my questions in the gram, please use the proper context. Reading the way you spliced together our comments from chat, it would appear that I said some people would be upset over 691 and 701 being in the greensheet. When in fact the comment about people being upset was meant to reflect people's different feelings on what is a particular note worth. No harm done, just a comment, as you like comments.

Brad

Calendar

In this section we will highlight MPC chat, MPC Fest, and MPC gram events. Other events will be mentioned as they get close. For planning purposes see the papermoneyworld.com calendar of events.

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Trading post

Your classified advertisement for items for sale will be run here for free. Send your ads to the gram.

Beautiful Konversionskasse notes for sale. These are the notes used as part of the Nazi plan to get control of their foreign exchange problems. These are listed in Pick, but if you want to really learn something about them, see 484 of the bible (World War II Remembered). I have a pair of the 5 mark notes for only \$100. If you want one or the other they are \$60. These are S/B 201 and 211. They are exceptionally nice uncirculated examples. You will like them. Please note also that I am studying the series letters indicated on these notes and having some good results. Please email me with the particulars of any notes that you have. Also email me to reserve the above notes and for other particulars: mpckid@papermoneyworld.com. Thanks.

following items for free on a first come, first served basis: 11 6 month subscription coupons for world coin news available and two 6 Month subscriptions to BNR. Contact Dave at coinman@rochester.rr.com.

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MPC Gram

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Series 001 Number 90

Aug 18, 2000

News and Views

The following testimonial about the ANA convention is from Bill Y, coinpro. I think that you will like it. I also think that it confirms what I reported from the show. Enjoy.

Well I just returned home from the ANA show and I am pleased to report that I made some great finds. I was there two days, thursday & saturday.

Picked up about a dozen or so notes on thursday...nothing outstanding, but I was able to fill a few slots...got a 461 5\$ and that completed the 461 series for me. Best purchase of the day though was WWII Remembered...what a book!!

Saturday was a more productive day. While on the bourse floor I heard my name paged overhead and learned that I was the winning bidder on three of the lots in which I had put bids on thursday! Lot 4...complete series 481, Lot 5...complete series 521 less the 5\$ note. The fractionals are nice and even the 1\$ note grades UNC. The 10\$ note grades VF. AND Lot #6...the 541 fractionals and 1\$ note. Interesting to note that the 50 cent note in this series has the cutting lines showing in the bottom right corner and bottom left border. The position number is 76.

Well, as they say...winning isn't everything...so I continued on with looking for more mpc to buy. The first note I purchased on saturday was a series 591 10\$ that grades fine but has a light ink mark on the face.

Surprisingly it does not really detract from the eye appeal of the note. At 50.00 it really looked attractive! A little later I found a series 661 20\$ note that grades F+ (In my opinion just missing a VF grade, but an attractive note despite the grade). It was marked at 140.00, but I closed the deal at 120.00. Probably not a great price, but I couldn't find anything close to it for the money. Throughout the day I purchased

some more notes to help reach my goal of completing a set...a 591 10 cent CU, 50 cent & 1\$ notes in fine (Hey, the price was right and I can always upgrade later!). One of my final purchases of the day was a 641 10\$ Replacement note, SN: J00415434 which grades a strong VF, perhaps XF (depending on whether you are the buyer or the seller).

> Overall I did pretty well. I got about a dozen notes closer to completing a set (22 notes away...some of them common) and I upgraded quite a few others. More importantly I met some of the people with whom I do business on eBay, such as Mike Cummings, Ken Barr, and David Seeyle just to mention a few. It's nice to see the faces that go with the names! I also met Joe Boling, Neil Shafer, Ian Marshall, Leo May, and Chet Krause. What GREAT people!

The highlight for me, though, was meeting the man behind the books and his wife. Sometimes you can tell whether you like someone in the instant you meet them. Fred and Judy Schwan are two of those people.

To all of the above add a room full of wonderful coins, such as the 1804 Silver Dollar, a set of 4\$ Gold Stellas, unique Pattern coins, treasures recovered from the shipwreck SS Central America...(remember, I am new to MPC collecting, but have been a numismatist for 27 years)...; I wasn't just a kid in a candy store, I was a kid in Willie Wonka's Chocolate

> Factory!

> What a show!

>
>
> Bill Yanchick
> 'coinpro'

===== Mail Call

Dear Editor, enjoy the MPC gram. Still miffed that even though I have collected MPC for years that I never got an opportunity to get a set of the 691 and 701. Some dealers got that opportunity, not all the collectors. Not a member of the "old boy" network I guess. signed, sour grapes.

Dear Mr. Grapes,

On the final night of the Democratic Party Convention, I guess that I can say "I feel your pain." First, let me say, that I was not an insider on this and that much remains to be learned and reported.

The original source (dubbed deep source by me (I think)) wanted the sets to go to collectors and overall I think that the guys whom he selected did a good job, not perfect by any means but good. The sets sold out rather quickly as was expected so it was certain that some collectors would be left out in the cold. I am sorry that you were one.

I think that right now you can get an 8 piece set for only a modest price jump over the original price, but I am not certain. Some sets are going to be sold openly in the next few months, that too should be interesting. Of course it is always possible that you will get to buy a set cheaper than the others! Who knows.

Thanks for the nice comment about the gram and the letter. We look foward to hearing from you again.

Fred

Calendar

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MPC Gram

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Series 001 Number 91

Aug 19, 2000

News and Views

Yesterday I started making a list of items to discuss in the Gram. Darn, I am not sure that daily is often enough, but an hourly gram is just too much. Perhaps we can eventually get guys in 24 times zones to publish daily grams so that we can have one every hour! I will never get everything in the gram that is happening. There is just so much going on, it is wonderful.

Last night there was some discussion about reaching a milestone with 90 grams. David S. pointed out that a pound is 454 grams. We have a way to go for a pound of grams! Certainly we should make it in 2001, but can we make it in less than a year from now? That will be difficult.

Chat was very good last night with lots of participants and some good ideas. One of these was about getting west coasters to participate in addition to Tom who is a regular. Kevin, we need you! What night should we try? Let's try for this coming monday and every monday to have a west coast chat. Heck, let's make it for 11pm eastern. Chat will start at 10, but the push for west coasters will be at 11pm. Of course we can change the night if need be. Let's also call it super chat night. Everyone should make special efforts to make chat on Mondays. The current edition of the IBNS Journal which just arrived is a virtual World War II Remembered supplement! It is just full of stuff of interest to grammers. Hm, can we win a grammy? Sounds like our annual awards should be grammies.

Hm, for best letter to the editor, best complaint, best feature article, best news article, best convention coverage, best ebay find, even best classified ad. There is no end to the possibilities.

Anyway, the cover story complete with COLOR illustrations is about the 691/701 MPC. Although there is not much in the article that you do not know, this article alone means that you should have a copy. Certainly it is now part of an MPC literature collection.

This article also included an announcemet about the MPC gram and we have added three new subscribers so far and the journal has only been in the mail a few days. Two of the three are from Europe! Welcome new targets, er readers.

Of course I suggest that everyone should be a member of the IBNS (International Bank Note Society). If you are not a member and would like to obtain a sample journal (specifically Vol 39 #2), well, I am not sure how to do it. Hopefully Joe or Steve who are both officers will respond with instructions on how to obtain a copy. I will comment later about other important information in this wonderful issue.

===== Mail Call

Your letters wanted.

=====

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MPC Gram

Series 001

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MPC Gram
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Series 001 Number 92

Aug 20, 2000

News and Views

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MPC Fest is only six months away! You will find the dates below. We need to start thinking seriously about what we want to do in the way of activities. I have a few new ideas, but certainly need to hear from you. I think that we will have an official trading session this year with tables and such. Perhaps only for a few hours. Might even invite non attending dealers/collectors to send matieral that is for sale. I think that I can find a volunteer in the house here to sit at a table with the multiple submissions. Probably will charge for tables.
Your ideas certainly are needed on the fest (and everything else too).

[Aside to Marv, can you work on getting Elmer Smith to come this year? He will be an honored guest.]
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Marv

Hello Marv, careful with that priase, it could go to our heads! Glas to hear that your exhibit is going to hit the road again. We are particularly looking forward to the "special" version.

Fred

Your letters wanted.

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MPC Gram

Series 001

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MPC Gram

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Series 001 Number 92.5 Aug 21, 2000

Series 001 Number 92.5 Aug 21, 2000

News and Views

Dreadful news from the Barrents Sea. I am sorry to have to report that the crew must have perished. The last two issues of MPC Gram sent to MPCKirsk@papermoneyworld have bounced. The crew seems to have save enough power each day to receive their gram, but once they lost the capability to receive thier daily gram they fell into dispair. Some great replacements went down with that boat!

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News and Views
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[Yahoo! Mail](http://mail.yahoo.com/) - Free email you can access from anywhere!

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MPC Gram
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Series 001 Number 93

Aug 21, 2000

News and Views

More comments from the IBNS Journal 39/2. There is an important article the Baltic punkt notes by the king of such material Juri Rudich and Ants Kulo. I have a long way to go before I can digest all of the information in this article.

In another article Nelson Aspen describes the discover of a previously not known 1943 10/- Bermuda note. This note must have a good story to tell and is certainly a WWII creation that belongs in the WWII book.

There is more in this issue too, but I probably will not list it. Instead I will just hope that all of you join. Joe Boling provided the information below.

Chat was good on Sunday night. Remember, Monday is the first attempt at a special West coast night and time. It will be a 8pm Pacific time and probably continue well beyond that if we can get some participation. Monday is the night guys. See you there!

=====

Mail Call

Dear Editor,

IBNS journals are stocked by the secretary, Milan Alusic, and are available for \$3 each plus postage. If you want to join, tell Milan to start your membership with 39:2 and it will save you the \$3 (but will cost you \$20 dues--obviously the price of back issues should be \$5 each).

milana@wi.net, or Milan Alusicm, PO Box 1642, Racine, WI 53401 USA
Joe

=====

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MPC Gram

Series 001

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<P>
More comments from the IBNS Journal 39/2. There is an important article the Baltic punkt notes by the king of such material Juri Rudich and Ants Kulo. I have a long way to go before I can digest all of the information in this article. </P>

<P>In another article Nelson Aspen describes the discover of a previously not known 1943 10/- Bermuda note. This note must have a good story to tell and is certainly a WWII creation that belongs in the WWII book.</P>

<P>There is more in this issue too, but I probably will not list it. Instead I will just hope that all of you join. Joe Boling provided the information below.</P>

<P>Chat was good on Sunday night. Remember, Monday is the first attempt at a special West coast night and time. It will be a 8pm Pacific time and probably continue well beyond that if we can get some participation. Monday is the night guys. See you there!

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 Mail Call

<P>Dear Editor.</P>

<P>IBNS journals are stocked by the secretary, Milan Alusic, and are
available for \$3 each plus postage. If you want to

[illegible]

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MPC Gram
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Series 001 Number 94

Aug 23, 2000

News and Views

Special West Coast Chat on Monday night was a tremendous success. Well, it was a success. OK we got 1.5 more west coasters than "normal." The half is because Kevin M promised on the phone to make it within the hour but never did. I do not know if technical problems got in his way or what. Also had response from Nick S. that he cannot make Monday nights because he has class. The message seems to be that making a special outreach can work, but that more work is necessary.

Beyond that the chat on Monday was good. I did not make chat last night, but I just read the chat log file for last night. In case you have forgotten Wiz posts a complete record of each chat at papermoneyworld.com each morning. This means that even if you miss a chat (shame on you), you can read what was said. I know of at least one person who reads the log file every morning.

There was some more chat last night about matching numbers. The new twist (I think suggested by paymaster) was to find a note with matching serial number (ending digits are close enough), position number, AND denomination as a 10 cent from position 10 with serial number ending in 10. That will be an interesting find indeed!

Doug B. told me that I somehow bungled the description of his matching set, so we will go over it here again. Doug is building an MPC set with the position number matching the denomination. You only need to find one of these notes in your own collection to recognize how interesting the notes are. The specific story that Doug was talking about where I bungled the description related to replacements. He is now looking for some replacements with the same criteria--matching SN and position number.

Did I mention that Austin is looking for certificates with position 7 because he has 7 daughters! This makes Austin and Joe our first pair of "consecutive position" collectors. Austin collects position 7 and Joe position 8. Does anyone have an interest in position 6 or 9 to make it three (or four) in a row? In a convoluted way I suppose our position 69 collector fits that bill!

Ok, if we want to get way out there, here is my proposal for a really wild MPC SN matching scheme. Try finding MPC with serial numbers ending in the catalog number of the respective note! For Series 461 5 cent that would be number 801 as in serial number xxxxx801. Then of course you could add notes using numbers from "that other catalog" if you really insist.

Not only would this be a difficult and interesting project, but it would also be one with a special twist in that the catalog numbers can (and have changed). They very well may change with the refinement of the 691/701 additions as discussed in the past. Wow, you could have SNs representing catalog numbers past, present, future! Ouch.

Have you had enough of this yet? Have a nice day. Hope to see you at chat tonight.

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Dear Editor,

The reason I feel last years Fest was such a hit, is it wasn't a "show" oriented format. I feel if one must attend his wares at a table, then participation and attention to topics dicussed will will suffer. It seems everyone came away happy from the previous Fest, with only private deals, so I feel this is the route to go.

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MPC Gram
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Series 001

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MPC Gram
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Series 001 Number 95

Aug 24, 2000

News and Views

I was late for chat on Wed, but it was a nice group at about midnight! Westies were more than a bit scarce again. Bill Mc is was on for the second night in a row and reported that he has taken a new job in Portland. He also promisses to raise west coast flag high and to rally the westies to the task when he gets there.

There was some discussion about how many people receive the gram. I will answer that in a minute (or 10) after some comments. First, I wondered if it becomes a kilogram after hitting 1000 subscribers or publishing issue 1000? I am confident that it becomes a megagram when we have both. Probably cannot achieve that in less than about 3 years. Unless of course, I happen to number some of the grams like Forbes numbers MPC Series 472 and 481--with skips. We know that I have made some mistakes along that line.

Shotgun threw in that his mothers copy is a mamogram. That made me reflect on my own humor attempts.

I have not made any serious efforts to recruit gram subscriptions, but we are getting close to be ready to handle larger numbers, and to having a subscription drive. You may recall that a news release has been prepared for the print media. That will be published in several places over the next few months. I suspect that it will generate a substantial number of subsubscribers.

One time we ran an ebay auction for free subscriptions. We discouraged bidding, but one fellow actually bid 5 cents or something like that. However, ebay busted us and killed that auction. However, I certainly will include notice about the gram in future auctions (I expect to start auctions again fairly soon). I might wait for MPC Kid to get a checking account reload, but it should be soon.

It probably would be a good idea to get someone to canvas ebay and other sites for possible subscribers and send them a sollicitaion or send me the addresses so that I can send them a "sample issue." We have a number 00/welcome gram ready for newbies.

To the question. We currently have about 80 subscribers.

Hot news today from the American Numismatic Association in Colorado Springs. It will probably offer a seminar on World War II numismatics as part of the annual summer seminar. These seminars are held each summer in Colorado Springs. Plans are tentative (and exciting). It is possible that we might even be able to expand to an MPC seminar one of these days. I also expect to get MPC into some of the "paper money" seminars currently planned.

I am not even sure how many scanners I own, but I know that I have paid more than \$1200 for two of them, but for one reason or another I have been without reasonable scanning capacity for a few MONTHS. Yesterday I bought ANOTHER scanner so I hope to incorporate images in (with by link) the gram soon. Certainly by next week, perhaps in a few days.

Wow, sorry, not much research in this issue.

=====

Mail Call
Dear Editor,

Hi, Murray here.

Great article on the series 691 and 701 [in the IBNS Journal]!

I received my Journal over one month ago, and at least 5 times a week I try and check into the "so called" chat room at papermoneyworld.com but it doesn't exist. Freinds in Europe and australia have tried also and all that comes up is "page cannot be displayed" or No matches found."I cannot find any reference to such a name anywhere. Please enlighten us who would like to join the chat.

All the best,

Murray H.

Dear Murray,

The mysteries of computers and the internet are never ending. Hopefully Doug the wiz (affectionately often simply called Wiz) has been able to help you and we sure look forward to seeing you at chat. When the tech problems get solved, let's talk about creating another chat room for "world paper money" with you as the leader!

Your Editor

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MPC Gram
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Series 001 Number 96

Aug 26, 2000

News and Views

There was a very active chat on Thursday night. It started out with the question of how many MPC collectors there are. From that evolved the matter of what is a collector vice a dealer and so on. This is an endless discussion which contributes greatly to its popularity.

In one of my reports from the ANA convention, I reported locating a MPC Series 521 \$5 from the second printing. I had to also admit that I did not record the serial number. Well I found it (the number). It is E06215939E. As stated at the time, that makes three piece confirmed in collections. While I was certainly pleased with the discovery, I was unhappy that I was unable to acquire the note. The collector was willing to trade it to me for my collection and I made what I thought was a generous offer, but it turns out that we were very far apart in preceived value of the note.

While I did not think that the note was worth any where near what the seller thought, I must admit that the multiple printings are very popular right now. I also think that they will continue to grow in interest. However, what does this mean with respect to value? I am not at all certain and all that I could give is opinion anyway.

* * *

What is your dream note? A \$20 Series 2 SOS (Seamen's Overseas Service)note? MPC Series 591 25 cent replacement? A 100 yen A replacement, or just a nice circulated MPC 692 \$10? Possibly a short snorter dated on your birthday or signed by a family member?

How did you get started collecting? What is your favorite story about collecting? What was your best "find" or biggest "might have been." We want to hear about all of these things. Please share your personal answers to these questions with gram readers. They can be published with or without your name.

=====

Mail Call

Your letters are invoited on just about any military money and related subject. Letters are subject to editing. They can be published without name and addresses are never given, but MPC Gram must know whence it came.

Editor,

Regarding the format for the next MPC fest...I would like to see a show-oriented format. This would help those of us new to MPC collecting who need to add notes to complete our collection. Limiting the show to a private deals only format puts the new collectors at a disadvantage.

With a show oriented format, private deals are going to happen anyway, and dealers/collectors who do not wish to display at a table can choose not to do so. I was not at the last show (oops, I mean fest) so I have no history in which to base my opinion. However, the excitement one feels when driving to a show pondering the possibilities of adding new MPC to his collection is a strong mitigating factor for a show-oriented format. Just my opinion.

coinpro

Dear Pro,

Thanks for your thoughts. One of the problems is definition. What you mean by a show, probably means something else to me. Today when most people say coin (paper money, MPC) show they seem to mean bourse. To me that is simply a bourse. To me for the event to be a "show" it must have more activities than simply a sales area. Convention is another level of event by my way of thinking. A convention is a show held by a recognized organization. Of course the lines are not always clear between these events. Some conventions can be smaller than some bourses.

For MPC Fest, it was my vision to have something different. To some extent that lead to the selection of the word fest rather than show, convention, or bourse. Furthermore, we could hardly have a convention since we are not a viable "organization," and I did not feel that a traditional bourse was viable.

Everyone seemed happy with Fest I and I continue to feel that we want something different, but of course that does not mean that we cannot change or at least evolve. Many of the decisions hing upon how many people are are comming to Fest II. If we have 15 (12 last year) the format that we had will probably work again. If we have 100 then we need major changes. My guess is that we will have about 25 people attend so we are somewhere in between. I think that we need to start taking reservations for the fest within a few weeks so that we can get an idea of the level of participation.

I certainly agree that everyone hopes to aquire material at the fest and we will certainly schedule some time this year for more formalized swap sessions than we had last year, but I doubt seriously if we will have a bourse in the tradition of most "shows" in the United States.

One little twist that I am considering is accepting material from dealers who will not be in attendance. They can send material that will be offered for sale by Fest officials (probably my wife) during trading hours. Of course inventory management and security are serious considerations, but I think that they can be overcome.

Thank you again for your thoughts. I look forward to exchanging more ideas here as plans develop.

=====

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Series 001
Number;96; ; ; ; ; ; ; ; ; ; ; ; ; ; ; ;
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MPC Gram
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Series 001 Number 97

Aug 28, 2000

News and Views

A reader has compiled a list of people who have bid on MPC on ebay. It is a substantial list. He is hesitant to send them a gram solicitation because he has been advised that it is spam. He might be right, but I just read a definition that says that spam is unsolicited commercial email. The notice would be unsolicited, but it would not be commerical since the price of the gram is so low/reasonable. I solicit your thoughts on this.

=====

Mail Call

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Dear Editor,
I also am in favor of a little classier surrounding. Something with room service, and maybe a hot tub or jacuzzi? Speaking for myself, I would be willing to pay extra for these luxuries. To me the Fest is a get together of collectors, not a show, so therefore it's get away that I splurge on myself not my collection.. Although that can't be totally ignored!

IWANTYOURMPC

Dear IWANT,
Last year someone objected to paying for a motel at all prefering to save money to buy notes. Another fellow wanted to have a room where smoking was allowed and another fellow wanted a room alone (knowing that he would have to pay extra). Basically I rejected all of these requests because they did not fit my vision of what the fest should be and it seemed to work out for the best.

Obviously this year will be different in some was so we need every bit of feedback that we can get.

Thank you for writing, I a have arranged a tent with room service for you.

Your servant

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MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>
Date:
10/30/2000, 11:36 AM
To:
mpcgram@yahoo.com

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MPC Gram
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World of Military Numismatics

Covering the Entire

Series 001 - Number 155 Monday- 30 October 2000

Traffic at the St. Louis show was heaviest on Saturday afternoon with lots of new faces showing up. Many MPC collectors were in the group, it was great.

One new subscriber got everyone's attention when he pulled out his palm pilot to consult his MPC want list!

He walked away with some new MPC to enter on this pilot, and MPC book, WWII book, and a subscription to the gram. Welcome Russ and other new subscribers from St. Louis.

Business was certainly brisk in MPC and other military money. I do not know if any single note sold as many as three times, but several notes were sold and then resold. Negotiations took place at bourse tables, in the parking lot, and in the hotel rooms. Lot of notes when home with new owners.

There was a lot of interest in the multiple printing notes with several good notes uncovered and sold at record prices. The acceptance of the multiples is growing rapidly.

A possible world record price was paid for an Allied military currency note. More information on that transaction tomorrow.

=====
Editorial

We spoke with David Kranz of Krause Publication and the Bank Note Reporter in St. Louis. He apologized (sort of) for not running the news release about the gram and promised to run it next month.

I was able to obtain a few great notes for my own collection about which I am of course pleased, but perhaps more importantly we have some great new material for the gram. It should keep us busy for weeks just reporting and digesting it! Stay tuned.

=====

Mail Call

Dear Editor,
What happened to the calendar? I like having it every day. I refer to it at various times at home and at the office. Give us the calendar.
Marcus

Dear Marcus,
Relax, you will get your new expanded calendar in the new publication in the MPC family of pubs, the MPC Calendar Gram. This expanded publication will include many new features. It will be sent at least weekly but also whenever there is a change. If you still want the old calendar, well we have some 1999s hanging around here that you may have.
Fred

Dear Editor,
What do you mean you can't offer my notes in the Gram? You just did. Thanks
Mark

=====

Departments

WWII numismatics seminar at ANA Summer Seminar 2001

Marcus Turner, coordinator, contact
marcus@papermoneyworld.com, mail donations and material for sale/auction to:
Marcus Turner 8103 East US Highway 36 Suite 163 Avon, IN 46123 U.S.A.
Mentioned in the dispatches (for support of the summer seminar):
Mike Cummings
Ed B.Bill McNese
Marcus Turner
Larry Ski
Fred
PK6

[list of benefactors for MPC Seminar I. Last names have not been used if the donors wishes in this area were uncertain or to protect the guilty. If we missed a contributor, please forgive us then hit us in the head (with email only please). The many MIA gramsters (Missing in Accounting) should jump on the band wagon and get their pledges in to the gram or to Marcus.]

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classified advertisement for items for sale will be
run here for free. Send your ads to the gram. The
point is to make the gram more interesting. Send in a
list of items for sale and we will list them here in
the gram.

The following MPC is available, Series 661 -
.25 - 8.25, have one graded at au by dealer, but has
double corner fold, center fold, 3 dog-eared corners,
is xf at best; contact marianne a, mdades@pacbell.net.
I can send a want list via email and will trade above.
More notes in ths next few days. You pay exact
postage/insurance.

=====
Staff: publisher and editor: Fred Schwan -
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critic: Harold Kroll - MPCKid@papermoneyworld.com;
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the gram to MPCgram@yahoo.com. Thank you very much for your participation.

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Subject:
MPC Gram 156
From:
MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>
Date:
10/31/2000, 8:44 AM

To:
mpcgram@yahoo.com

=====

MPC Gram

=====

World of Military Numismatics

Covering the Entire

Series 001 - Number 156 Tuesday- 31 October 2000

1000 MARK REPLACEMENT CHANGES HANDS

The replacement version of the 1000 mark Forbes/US printing Allied military currency has been a fantasy note for decades. Heck, the 1000 mark Forbes is an enigmatic note and fantasy for most collectors!

A replacement of the 1000 mark note changed hands in St. Louis. The buyer and I were both excited. I assume that the seller was excited too since it was at a record price!

Serial number of the notes is 00031953. More details on the sale and a feature on AMC marks will be published soon.

=====

Editorial

Joe Boling has agreed to submit a regular column to appear in the gram on Tuesdays! I am (hereby) asking Larry S. to write a similar column to appear on the day after Wenesday. This day will then forever (at least to gramsters) be known as Thurski!

Your questions and comments to these contributors will help them fulfill their obligations and also reinforce the appropriate behavior of supporting the gram!

=====

Mail Call

Dear Editor,
What happened to the calendar? I like having it every day. I refer to it at various times at home and at the office. Give us the calendar.
Marcus

Dear Marcus,
Relax, you will get your new expanded calendar in the new publication in the MPC family of pubs, the MPC Calendar Gram. This expanded publication will include many new features. It will be sent at least weekly but also whenever there is a change. If you still want the old calendar, well we have some 1999s hanging around here that you may have.

Editor

Hi Fred,
Had a great time at St. Louis- lots of gramsters and
others there. I need to have your "cheat sheet"
detailing the differences between printings of Series 481 (others
also?). You offered it so I am
taking you up on that offer. Grams Forever!

Neil S.

Dear Neil,
Data on the MPC multis may be found at Phil
Goldstein's web site (link will be in the first MPC
Calendar Gram (pending)). I am trying to figure out
how to send a copy of the cheat sheet in the gram, but
cannot so am sending a copy vis snail mail.
Thank you for your promise at St. Louis for frequent
contributions to the gram.
Bram for another week!

Fred

=====

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The following MPC is available, Series 692 - 1.00 - unc at 35.00 (has small corner fold); contact marianne a, mdades@pacbell.net. I can send a want list via email and will trade above. More notes in ths next few days. You pay exact postage/insurance.

=====

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critic: Harold Kroll - MPCKid@papermoneyworld.com;

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Subject:

MPC Gram 157

From:

MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>

Date:

11/1/2000, 12:52 PM

To:

mpcgram@yahoo.com

=====

MPC Gram

MAJOR SEMINAR DONATION ANNOUNCED ON MPC CHAT!

Harold (MPCKid) announced on MPC Chat Monday night that he is matching the existing matching donation for the MPC Seminar. The announcement is exciting in several ways.

First, the \$250 donation means that every \$50 donated by others creates \$100 in the fund. Assuming that the full amount is used, that brings the cash total to over \$1000. That is the figure generally used by ANA headquarters as necessary for a scholarship so one scholarship is virtually guaranteed! Good work gramsters.

Second, it was exciting that the announcement was made at MPC chat! There is no faster medium for distributing breaking news than Chat. It makes even daily grams seem slow.

The first breaking story announced in chat was the distribution of MPC Series 691 and 701.

=====

Editorial

We noted yesterday that addition to two regular columnists (well they are themselves a little irregular, but they agree to normal (yikes, they are not normal either) submissions to the gram). We intend to approach some others about making such contributions, but there is adequate space in the gram for more of you to do the same. If you would like to have a column to appear each week (or every day if you are a real GRAMSTER) drop us a line and consider your proposal approved!

Columnists need not be old hands like Boling and Ski. There is plenty of room for commentary by raw beginners and intermediate persons too! If you do not feel like committing to a weekly submission, you can still write a story, letter, question, or whatever, just about any time that you like. Do not be shy, step up to the work processor and go for it.

=====

Mail Call

Dear Gramsters,

This weekend, at the St Louis show, I had the pleasure of observing Russ' MPC database on Palm Pilot in

action. Very impressive!
Is anyone else out there is electronically cataloging
their collections? I would be very interested in
hearing about what commercially available software is
in use and how good it is, or if anyone else has
created their own database(s) that have worked well
for them.
Turner

Dear Gramsters,

I told Fred and Marcus that I would let them know the
results of the MPC at the PCDA St. Louis show for the
next Gram. Here are the results that I tracked and
were confirmed by the PR after the sale.

With so little MPC in this sale it wouldn't be a true
barometer of how the market on the particular note or
issue is. The sale contained only seven lots of MPC. However, of great
interest to the MPC Gram
participants was Lot 1813.

The Series 471 \$10 in Choice XF error with significant
portions of the back not printed didn't sell according
to the PR. Estimated at \$600-\$1,000 it opened at \$360
and closed at that amount. It didn't sell because the PR doesn't have a
selling price on it. [This is
the note that was examined by experienced gramsters at
Memphis where it was first offered and determined to
be a fake, well at least not an error. --Ed]

Lot 1816 contained a \$5 Series 521 in VF. Estimated at
\$250-\$350 it opened and sold to the book for \$275. Lot 1817, another Series
521 \$5 only this in VF or so
opened and sold to the book for \$220. The estimate
was \$200-\$300.

Lot 1818, a \$20 Series 661 in XF (Centered high.)
estimated at \$80-\$100 opened and sold to the book for
\$193.

The MPC starter group containing eight notes in Lot
1819 sold to the floor for \$33 after opening at \$25. The estimate was \$40-
\$60. Contained in this lot was a
Series 541 .5 Cent; Series 641 \$10; Series 661 .5,
.10, .25, .50 and \$1 and the last a Series 681 \$20. All the notes were in
Fine to XF. This was probably
the only bargain because it sold for about face value
of the notes in the lot. Where was my and or your
bid? Sometimes things Fall through the cracks and you
can get a small bargain IN ANY SALE if you are
patient, AND LOOK AT THE LOTS.

Overall for the general paper money collector large
and small size type along with Nationals are still
going up in prices.

Look for our coverage on the entire sale in the next issue of Bank Note Reporter on the Smythe and Knight sales.

Yours in Numismatics and Collecting

John and Nancy Wilson

=====

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via email and will trade above. More notes in ths next
few days. You pay exact postage/insurance.

Books of interest to MPC collectors from
BNRPress@papermoneyworld.com.

Comprehensive Catalog of US Paper Money Errors by Fred Bart includes error MPC! While the MPC portion is small, it is significant that MPC is included at all! The softbound version of this book is sold out, but we will sell the hardbound version to gramsters at the softbound price, but you must keep it secret! Price is \$29 postpaid (priority mail shipping). If you will send your order via email and mention the gram, we will send the book with an invoice. Thanks.

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MPC Gram 158
From:
MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>
Date:
11/2/2000, 12:39 AM
To:
mpcgram@yahoo.com

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MPC Gram	
=====	
World of Military Numismatics	Covering the Entire

Series 001 - Number 158	Thursday- 2 November 2000

MPC SEMINAR AT CENTER STAGE

by Marcus Turner

There was certainly alot of buzz at the St. Louis show concerning the WWII Numismatics Seminar Scholarship. Special thanks to Mike Cummings for his financial contribution and to John & Nancy Wilson, Joel Shafer, Neil Shafer and World Wide Ventures for the donation of material.

Now that the momentum is growing I believe there are some issues that we need to come to a consensus on concerning the fund.

What will the criteria for the award of scholarship be?

What is the appropriate way to liquidate donated materials?

I suspect that many of you have wondered what the award of scholarships will be based on? That is a question that WE must answer before expanding our fund raising activities. Marv Mericle has suggested that we do NOT specifically target YNs (Young Numismatists). His reasoning is that the ANA and regional/local clubs have many scholarship opportunities available to this group that many times go un-filled due to a lack of applicants. >From the discussion in St. Louis there seemed to be consensus on that issue among participating attendees. The second issue is the liquidation of donated materials. Suggestions have been received regarding use of the gram and/or eBay to accomplish this. I have also heard a suggestion that some items be put for raffle.

Your ideas and opinions are desperately needed regarding these matters. Please drop me a line stating your position or even concurrence regarding these matters.

More information to follow.....

=====

Editorial

The work by Marcus and the donations are very

exciting. This is important work and I think that we are doing a wonderful job. We look forward to many more reports from Marcus on this project and to your donations as well.

We also need to start looking for candidates to attend the seminar both on scholarship and on a paid basis. We want this seminar to be the first of many wonderful such events!

Fred

=====

Mail Call

Hi Fred -

Glad to read that you had a good time at the St. Louis show. I found a few notes there for myself - and Trevor Lauber, our Bank Note Reporter advertising representative, even bought his first note ever: a Series 641 \$0.05 MPC. He's excited about it. We'll see if he gets deeper into it all.

Now, there's coercion and then there's your editorial of Gram 155. I expect that news of the Gram will appear in the next BNR. I try to be as good as my word and deliver when I've said I will. It brings a particular sense of satisfaction when it promotes real hobby activity. But many items compete for space in each issue, so please do not take offense if it should appear later.

The success the Gram has been achieving is wonderful. I enjoy reading them, usually each day but sometimes a few days pass before I get to them. I hope you're enjoying it. Best wishes -

- Dave Kranz, Bank Note Reporter

=====

Departments

WWII numismatics seminar at ANA Summer Seminar 2001

PK6: Your donation of notes was waiting for me in my mailbox when I returned from St. Louis. Thanks Bruce!

Marcus Turner, coordinator, contact marcus@papermoneyworld.com, mail donations and material for sale/auction to: Marcus Turner 8103 East US Highway 36 Suite 163 Avon, IN 46123 U.S.A.

Mentioned in the dispatches (for support of the summer

seminar): Harold Kroll (upcoming announcement) John & Nancy Wilson Joel
Shafer World Wide Ventures Neil Shafer Mike Cummings Ed B. Bill McNese Marcus
Turner Larry Ski Fred PK6

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Books of interest to MPC collectors from
BNRPress@papermoneyworld.com.

Comprehensive Catalog of Military Payment Certificates
by Fred Schwan is the ultimate MPC book. If you do ntt
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MPC Gram 159

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MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>

Date:

11/3/2000, 12:58 AM

To:

mpcgram@yahoo.com

=====

MPC Gram

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Covering the Entire

World of Military Numismatics

Series 001 - Number 159 Friday- 3 November 2000

GREENSHEET REPLACEMENT STORY PREVIEW

The following story has been submitted to the Currency [sic] Dealer Newsletter for the annual MPC replacement story in the November issue.

Military payment certificate (MPC) replacements continue to sizzle. (Remember, replacements for MPC have no suffix letter to the serial number as A00001234. For many years these notes were the purview of an avid group of collectors and just a few dealers. Now a large number, if not most, dealers recognize these little jewels and are prepared to purchase them if they can be found at attractive prices. It is hard to keep such things secret when public sales in excess of \$5000 have been recorded!

Prices are up in virtually every series and condition. Prices are also erratic as dealers who are actively engaged in this market often pay more for replacements. Because of the extra interest and expansion of this market, we have changed the report to the familiar bid-ask format.

With all of this optimism, there are only two areas of caution worth mentioning. Groups of Series 641 and to a lesser extent 692 have been brought of Vietnam. Included of course were replacements. The \$5 Series 641 replacement that was formerly rare is now less so and the \$10 denomination of the same series which was never rare is now very soft. Purchase of this \$10 replacement in circulated grades is not recommended unless you have a specific customer in mind.

As usual, the summary chart is up to date and includes data that has not been published in other sources.

=====

Editorial

I am sorry that we have a serious problem. Because of the amazing amount of new information and material that is available, we are faced with difficult problems and decisions. I am sorry to announce that because of the above we are forced to discontinue publishing the daily gram. Sad, but true.

It is very obvious that we cannot keep this up. In order to satisfactorily service the community, we must go to the hourgram!! Yes, your daily gram should become the hourly gram. Alas, until the staff gets substantially larger and the length of the day is expanded we probably will not meet the goal of 24 hourly grams per day.

=====

Mail Call

Dear Gramsters,

A few years ago, I converted my inventory from paper into a series of spread sheets in Lotus 1-2-3 format (a spread sheel/level for each type of material with which I was working-- i.e., MPC, AMC, Foreign paper, US paper, etc.). It has worked wonderfully well for me as long as I remember to use the date, price, cataloging conventions I set up or borrowed. I can use the "Data" functions to accomplish lots of operations. Unfortunately, my wife can add the "cost" column and use that to tell me how much she gets to spend in the following year.

Interestingly enough, the files run on the 800 series pentium at work and on the 16MhZ (yes 16MhZ) 386 at home. It takes a lot of planning and time to initially set up the files. Once accomplished, I

wonder why I did not do it earlier.

rusty

=====

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Subject:

MPC Gram 160 corrected

From:

MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>

Date:

11/5/2000, 10:37 AM

To:

mpcgram@yahoo.com

=====

MPC Gram

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World of Military Numismatics

Covering the Entire

1000 Mark AMC Issued?

by Fred Schwan

For at least three decades collectors have gone on the assumption that the US printing (Forbes) 1000 mark denomination AMC was not issued in Germany. I believe that that is correct, but any direct evidence that we had of that seems to have been lost. I think that possibly Ray Toy or even Jimmie Swails had documents to substantiate this position, but if they did, the documents have been lost and may not be possible to reconstruct.

In the preparation of World War II Remembered and before that World War II Military Currency we made the case that the denomination was not issued based upon observations and analysis.

Of course this information is of critical interest to collectors who are looking for these notes. If any of the old hands can recall any documentary evidence, we sure would like to know about it. At the same time, perhaps a new collector has found some new evidence or more likely a new analysis looking at it with fresh eyes!

=====
Editorial

Chat started out slow on Thursday night but developed into, well, a nice chat. Lots of talk about AMC (Tom where were you?!), but to me the most interesting part was Florida George describing how he got involved in MPC etc. The very first introduction was via ebay, but that was followed very closely by personal contact with collectors and dealers at Memphis. I hope that he will expand upon this story and that many more of YOU will share your story. After all, you had to read 10,000 words on how I got started!

=====
Mail Call

Dear Editor:

Good to see Gram clan members in St. Louis. I am quite interested in hearing all the details of the 1000 mark replacement.

Joel Shafer

Hi Fred,

Will look forward to receipt of the cheat sheet on MPC printings.

Neil Shafer

Dear Shafers,

We will do our best to accommodate both of your requests! For everyone's information, at St. Louis both of the Shafer "boys" made contributions of material to the scholarship fund. Furthermore, both of them promised to make frequent contributions to the gram. They declined making the day after Saturday Shafday, but still promised frequent contributions. I took that to mean that they did not want to be restricted to splitting only one day per week because they wanted to contribute more often than that.

On behalf of gramsters everywhere, I look forward to items from the Shafer computers. If we do not get enough material by the Shafers, your editor may have to fill the space by writing ABOUT the Shafers!

Fred

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A flipper is a note with a serial number that still reads as a number when held upside down. A swims note is a special case of a flipper where the number reads the SAME when held upside down. Swims are very rare notes, flippers are scarce, but not rare. As described in the gram, I spent a lot of time at St. Louis studying a hoard of Series 641 \$10 notes.

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World of Military Numismatics

Series 001 - Number 160 Monday- 6 November 2000

Covering the Entire

Bush -- Gore Campaign for Crucial Swinger Votes

The major national media have missed key elements of the candidates positions. In an exclusive interview in Port Clinton, Bush explained that under his plan for social security investment, collectors will be able to use social security funds for MPC purchases. He said tha this small but important provision will have many important benefits. It will reinforce the appropriate behavior of MPC collecting which is well known to promote family values and keep drunks off the roads.

VP Gore called the plan crazy. He said that the benefit as described by Bush would bennefit only the top 2% of collectors who have recognized the tremendous value of MPC collecting. Gore pointed out that he himself had invented MPC and MPC collecting while serving in WWII and Korea. He said that his plan to promote the healthful activity of MPC collecting will have a much greater effect on the community.

Gore said that all MPC collectors will have the highest priority at the national, state, county, and township hospitals that he will create. He will assign a personal physican to each MPC collector who completes a traditional 90 piece set of MPC or gathers 20 different replacements.

Furthermore, he criticized the exclusionary aspect of the Bush plan and plans to inclue AMC and even JIM collectors into the compreshensive MPC Collection Promotion Plan.

Governor Bush suggested that overworked editors who have promoted MPC should have routine use of Camp David. VP Gore countered that a government grant to improve the working environment of such editors was much more appropriate. He promised to make Air Force One available to MPC Gram staff writers.

Finally, both candidates agreed that it was essential to again issue MPC. They said if they could not create an armed conflist where MPC would be issued within the first 100 days of their presidency, that they would declare certain domestic areas as MPC test territory. When pressed on this matter, they disagreed on the details. Tennessee and Texas were mentioned as

possible areas.

1000 Mark AMC Continued

by Fred Schwan

In Gram 160 we speculated that the Forbes 1000 mark notes were not issued. We based this conclusion primarily upon observation. The two biggest observations are that the notes are darn scarce or rare and that they are never seen in circulated condition.

This is good information, but hardly conclusive. It could mean that the 1000s were not issued very much just as well as meaning that they were not issued at all. Indeed, that would be the more likely conclusion from these observations.

In either case, unissued, or limited issue, the notes are fun for collectors!
Related to but beyond the question of whether the denomination was issued or not is the question of replacements!

Obviously, if regular issue notes were not issued, replacements were not issued. However, in whatever status we know that some regular issue 1000 mark notes are in collections, so we also would expect that some replacements might (should?) exist. We certainly know that they were "printed" because they are found in specimen booklets (more on these later), but the matter of "issued" 1000 mark replacements has been a question for many years.

Holger Rosenberg of Germany offered an uncirculated replacement in an auction about two years ago. It has been reported and I would have expected it anyway that the replacement in question is the same piece.

When Holger was auctioning this note, I was very interested. I asked him to bring the note to the New York International Show in December of that year because the timing was perfect relative to his auction. I wanted to examine the note for evidence that it had been in a specimen booklet.

I expected to find some residue on the edge from being in a booklet. I thought that the perforated word SPECIMEN might have also been filled in. However, it seemed more likely that the piece had been in a booklet without the perforations and removed. Of course that would have been a great mystery in itself, but that is what I expected.

Unfortunately, Holger forgot the note so I did not get an opportunity to examine it. You can imagine that I was excited to get to (finally) study the note at the St. Louis Pcds show. I was indeed pleased for the opportunity.

I was somewhat surprised that I could find no indication of removal from a booklet. I did not have all of the necessary equipment for a thorough examination, but I (and others) studied it quite carefully and I believe that it was NOT in a booklet.

However, that does not automatically mean that it was issued. There are other possibilities too. It appears that the note is not perfectly square (a rectangle of course). This is apparent only after careful examination. The note is NOT undersize so it was probably not trimmed (one of the possibilities. That leaves two likely causes. One, it might simply be slight irregularity (not enough to really call an error). This is actually more likely than normal on a note that might have had a very low issue.

The other possibility is that this piece was cut from a sheet or partial sheet for some purpose other than issuing. Compounding this idea is the fact that this cutting could have been done in the 1940s or in 2000.

There is more to say about this note, much more, stay tuned.

=====

Editorial

Technology got in the way with Gram 160. First the spelling checker truncated the gram. The interesting thing was that it continued to truncate it at the same place so we gave up on checking the second half then the mailing routine crashed the system repeatedly. This is a maze as I am sure you all know. Oh well, we would not have a gram at all without the infernal machines so for the moment we must accept the warts.

=====

Mail Call

Dear Editor:
Good to see Gram clan members in St. Louis. I am quite interested in hearing all the details of the 1000 mark replacement.
Joel Shafer

Hi Fred,
Will look forward to receipt of the cheat sheet on MPC printings.

Neil Shafer

Dear Shafers,

We will do our best to accommodate both of your requests! For everyone's information, at St. Louis both of the Shafer "boys" made contributions of material to the scholarship fund. Furthermore, both of them promised to make frequent contributions to the gram. They declined making the day after Saturday Shafday, but still promised frequent contributions. I took that to mean that they did not want to be restricted to splitting only one day per week because they wanted to contribute more often than that.

On behalf of gramsters everywhere, I look forward to items from the Shafer computers. If we do not get enough material by the Shafers, your editor may have to fill the space by writing ABOUT the Shafers!

Fred

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Departments

WWII numismatics seminar at ANA Summer Seminar 2001

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marcus@papermoneyworld.com, mail donations and material for sale/auction to:
Marcus Turner 8103 East US Highway 36 Suite 163 Avon, IN 46123 U.S.A.
Mentioned in the dispatches (for support of the summer seminar):

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Ed B.

Harold MPCKid Kroll

Bill McNese

Marcus Turner

Larry Ski

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World of Military Numismatics
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Series 001 - Number 162          Tuesday- 6 November 2000
Covering the Entire
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ANALYSIS OF A HOARD OF JAPANESE MILITARY FIVE-YEN
NOTES

Joseph E. Boling

In 1981 I had the opportunity to purchase a large quantity of Japanese military five-yen notes, still in their "original" packing. These notes were anything but uncirculated. They had been heavily circulated, then bundled.

The bundles had been mishandled over the years, having been wet, mildewed, rotted, you name it; but they were still packed essentially the same as they had been 35 years before, when they were still a circulating currency. Let me describe what I found. As you read the following description, refer to the table for a better overall view of the hoard.

The notes were packaged in oriental fashion, with 9 or 19 notes inside the 10th or 20th, which was folded around the subgroup. Subgroups were assembled into packs of 100 notes and tied with ribbon or string (one pack was secured with a rubber band when I got them). You can see from the table that some of the packs no longer had 100 notes in them by the time I got them, and that two packs were not sub-divided (packs #1 and #2 were simply stacked and tied).

This hoard had been packaged like this for many years; I suspect they were picked up by a GI or other "tourist" right after the war. There was no evidence that the group had been cherry-picked. Most of the packs were dog-eared and notes were mildewed and rotted together, indicating long association, with no signs of having been opened and reassembled. In fact, many notes were damaged by my separation of them during my inventory of the hoard. I carefully opened each packet and inventoried the pieces by variety as

shown in the table.

My intent was twofold; I wanted to see how many Canton stamped pieces were present, and I wanted to measure the relative frequency of occurrence of the various types and varieties (bar overprints, later overprints, bird watermarks, etc.).

This hoard had to have been assembled in 1942 or later to include all of the varieties that I found. The presence of the bird watermarks shows that they were bundled after the Allies became belligerents in the Pacific (thus the notes were not liberated during the China incident days), and it is not likely that they were put away or captured between 1942 and 1945, because Hong Kong was the only place using them after 1939 (mainland China was using the bird and dragon notes long before 1942). Thus, this hoard probably represents the frequency of occurrence of notes in 1945, not 1942.

What was present? Look over the table (Pick numbers are useless on these, because ever since the 4th edition they have omitted the subvarieties of M25--SB numbers are used). What can we conclude from my inventory? It is interesting to see that the bar-overprinted notes were still circulating after the "bird" watermark came into use, and that a fair representation of Canton stamps is present.

By the time this hoard was assembled, there were virtually no Canton stamps on bar-overprinted notes still around (I found none). [I suspect that not many were ever created, as the bar overprinted series was replaced by the non-bar series before the Canton stamps were introduced (see Schwan/Boling, pp 588-591).] Canton stamped notes were still in circulation after the bird watermark was introduced, but not in large numbers (1.4% of this group). No bird-watermarked notes were found with Canton stamps. This is proper--the stamps were used long before the bird watermark should have been available. Finally, the hiragana Canton stamp is certainly far scarcer than the hentaigana one.

I found the hoard interesting and instructive, as I had not had a chance to go through an "original" group

like this previously.

Let me add a few comments not directly related to the hoard. The hiragana stamp is very scarce; I have only seen two in my years of collecting, one of which was in this hoard. The comment in Pick that most hentaigana stamps in the market on high grade notes are considered to be forgeries is not correct, in my opinion. I have seen a few that I consider forgeries, always on very high grade notes. If you find a note that is barely holding together, with a stamp which is faded and blurred and was only half-there in the first place, in the junk box of a dealer who doesn't even

know what a Canton stamp is, buy it. Almost all of the Canton stamps I see are found under just those conditions. I don't think anyone today is faking the stamps, and I don't think they were ever faked on low-grade notes. Of course, nothing will prevent faking of low-grade stamped notes if collectors demand them; witness the modern copies of SB2038, which I never expected would be worth faking. As always, use your judgement when buying notes that are unusual.

Who else has a hoard like this one to share with the readers? There must still be a few groups like this around, especially with all the junk that is coming out of China today. I welcome correspondence with anyone who has more statistics about circulation periods and frequency of distribution of Japanese-sponsored notes.

Variety inventory of a hoard of 1080 Japanese military five-yen notes

All notes are SB2010a except as follows

Group	2007a	2010b2	2010b1	2010c	total		
1 (loose)	4		0	2	13	88	
2 (loose)	5		0	2	22	100	
3 (20s)	9		0	3	12	93	
4 (20s)	10		0	1	13	99	
5 (20s)	0		0	0	4	100	
6 (20s)	12		0	0	10	100	
7 (20s)	6		0	1	20	100	
8 (20s)	5		0	2	11	100	
9 (10s)	9		1	1	25	100	
10 (10s)	8		0	0	18	100	
11 (10s)	0		0	2	17	100	
totals	68		1	14	165	1080	

NOTE: In each group, the difference between the total and the other columns is the number of SB2010a present.

MPC Wins Best of Show (naturally)

by Marcus Turner

The Indiana State Numismatic Association Convention was held this past weekend in Indianapolis. Military money was sparse on the bourse floor as expected but papermoney had much more substantial presence this year. Many familiar faces were in attendance from the MPC community including Marv Mericle, George Fitzgerald and Bill Haines. The military money presence was strong in the competitive displays (4 total) including a Military Payment Certificate display, a small display of AMC, Punkte Notes and German POW Money. Congratulations to Marv Mericle who took best of show honors for his display of Military Payment Certificates.

=====
Editorial

It is exciting to present the first column by Joe Boling. Joe could not have picked a better submission for column number 1. If you do not know Joe Boling, you do now! This story IS Joe Boling. The article is long, intricate, a little difficult to follow--and wonderful. It is packed with original research and clues about the notes--and the author!

It had not occurred to me to suggest to Joe that he should write a column for which readers should have their WWII Remembered open, but I should have, and he did! Brilliant Joe!

As you can imagine, Joe and I go back a long, long way. I certainly will comment on that relationship and our adventures as time goes on. I hope that Joe will too.

Because of the length of today's gram, I will not make election and MPC market predictions today, but will save those for tomorrow! That one extra day will allow much more accurate predictions!

=====
Mail Call

----- Hi Fred, I'm looking forward to seeing the actual outline for the WW II Seminar itself as it is quite an extensive arena including many "corners" of numismatics.

Cheers, Colin
Dear Colin,
Outline? Wow, never thought of that! Suppose we might use WWII Remembered pages 1-862!

Fred

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Departments

WWII numismatics seminar at ANA Summer Seminar 2001

Marcus Turner, coordinator, contact
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Attention MPC collectors! Here is a group of notes with vignettes used on MPC. Series 1912 Philippine 10 Peso Bank of the Philippine Islands P-8a. Condition is Fine. This note features the same vignette as the 521 \$5 MPC! \$50 postage paid. 10-day return privilege, satisfaction guaranteed!

<http://members.iquest.net/~maturner/philippine/sl13face.jpg>
<http://members.iquest.net/~maturner/philippine/sl13back.jpg>

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MPC Gram

===== Covering the Entire
World of Military Numismatics

Series 001 - Number 163 Wednesday- 7 November 2000

ITS FLORIDA

The ballots have been counted and recounted. ABC, CBS, NBC, CNN, MSNBC, and even ESPN have been hounding MPC central for a clarification with the situation in Florida. The results are still unclear among

collectors of MPC, AMC, and JIM collectors.

We have studied, counted, examined, adjusted, estimated, and calculated and there is no doubt about it. Florida is in the lead with MPC collectors. Florida has the most serious MPC collectors and most importantly Florida has more gramsters than any other state.

The final proof is that the last MPC mini fest before the election was in Florida (see report below). There is no doubt about it, Florida has spoken--MPC is king!

FLORIDA MINI FEST REPORT

by Harold MPCKid Kroll

I attended a show at Pens. Fl. this past weekend that had 18 dealers set up with a lot of nice material for sale, most of it consisted of coins and related items. There were 2 dealers who did have some MPC notes in thier inventory along with AMC and WWII notes. Did not find anything real exciting, but did purchase a 100 yen note, and 2 large Russian notes for my grand daughter.

The highlight of the trip was the fact that Mpcski was going to meet me there and we were going to have a "MINI FEST", and we did. We sat in the cafeteria and discussed collecting in all aspects

possible and then got down to some serious trading. We had previously worked on some trades with some bonds and war certificates and concluded these deals. Went on to trade for some of his duplicates, 472 10.00 notes for my block set and ended up purchasing a few other notes from him. One note was a high s/n note that I needed and one was a last 2 digit of the s/n to position number match that I upgraded to an unc.

Of course he wanted to see the German 1000MK replacement note and a few other notes from the St Louis show. (Yes, I was the unnamed buyer of this note, see grams 160, 161, 165) It was speculated that this note was printed, but never confirmed until this piece became available. This note is the only UNC known at this time, has great color, sharp corners, with centering a little to right side of the note. Was very excited to acquire this note.

By this time Larry mentioned that he was getting hungary, not realizing what time it was, we had spent all afternoon, (4 hours), discussing notes and trading. Time seems to pass so quickly when your having fun. I really had a great visit and enjoyed the show.

Looking forward to the next opportunity for a "Mini Fest" and the "NEXT FEST" coming up in March 2001.

Everyone should start making there plans to attend the "NEXT FEST." Anyone needing information on the fest can contact me at Mpckid@papermoneyworld.com or Fredschwan@papermoneyworld.com for more details. We need your feed back on attending so we can plan for accomendations, meeting room, hotel reservations, etc. Thanks in advance.

You All Have A Great MPC Day!

=====
Editorial

Once again we have decided to postpone our MPC market and US election predictions until Thursday. This was required by the extraordinary happeneings in MPC collecting. That one extra day should allow more accurate predictions. Thank you for your understanding of this delay.

=====
Mail Call

Dear Editor,

Re 1000Mk Forbes note, I have one CU I bought from Ted Uhl in 1974 for \$475. At the time it was bought it was thought there were about a dozen in collections. (How many more have tuned up?). Just for the record #003598976.

I do not recall any mention or comments at that time about of its use or indeed if it had ever gone into circulation.

Re MPCGram 142. I know of an intact Fanning Island note #1778. Does anyone know anything about the white metal tokens "Washinton and Fanning Islands," "Good For" \$1 & 50 Cents?

Did you know that there are two sorts of BMA Specimens? One with the X code letter which each note has a double perforated 'SPECIMEN.' The other type of which I only have the 6d (no code) and the 10/- 00S 000000. Each has a printed 'SPECIMEN' at the top and the bottom.

Regards Tom

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Black Market Money is a GREAT book. It is not a catalog or numismatic book at all, but it is very important to MPC and AMC research. It is a history book about the developement of the MPC system. It is also a scarce book. Many gramsters and virually all old-time MPC collectors have this book, but if you do not, now is the time to get one! Price is only \$35 postpaid. If you will send your oder via email and mention the gram, we will send the book with an invoice. Thanks.

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Covering the Entire

World of Military Numismatics

Series 001 - Number 164 Thurski- 9 November 2000

ONLY COLLECT STRICT UNCIRCULATED NOTES

by Larry Smulczenski

When you look through your collection, there are always a small number of notes that remind you of stories how you came across that particular note, why you decided to buy it or the battle you had getting it. The large majority of notes simply were on your want list and when you came across one that you liked, you bought it. Some times you bought a note to fill a hole until you could find one that you liked better. different than the rest of you, except that possibly I was more of a perfectionist. I frequently passed on really nice notes because they had a corner fold or some equally minor imperfection. I first encountered MPC in 1968-69 when I used them in Viet

I'm no

Nam. There was a C-day (changeover) while I was there so we were paid in series 661 and 681. One thing I can proudly remember is that I was smart enough to send home a pristine set of each series. At that time, I was not an MPC collector, in fact I knew nothing about the money we were using, but like all GI's, I wanted some souvenirs to take home. My past hobby of collecting stamps, told me to look for perfect notes and set them aside. I did-- but I didn't have the foresight to bring home a pack of 661 \$10's, nor did I know enough to look for replacements if they ended up in my wallet and probably some did.

I came home in November 1969, and the notes stayed in a drawer for a couple of years. My career took most of my time through the mid 70's and I spent a lot of time away from home, but after 1975, because of family medical problems I started spending more time at home. I rediscovered the MPC sets and started to look for information on MPC. You must realize that there wasn't books and articles on the subject as there are now. The first Schwan-Boling book was still five years in the future. I found Fred and bought a few notes. Our correspondence was mostly by mail and even though we were only about three hours apart, me in Southwest Ohio, he in Northwest Ohio, we never met until the first Memphis show in 1977.

A couple of months later, the Air Force reassigned me to Northwest Florida and Fred and I again crossed paths in Atlanta at the ANA show as I headed south. I was anxious to find and add more MPC to my collection. As stated before, my interest was in purely crisp uncirculated notes that I didn't have. I was able to find a great 611 \$10 note on the floor and Fred brought along the 541 \$5, SN F03829401F that was one of three that Freeman Craig Sr arranged to have sent to him from Viet Nam.

Fred also had another note that he wanted me to look at. I took one brief look and handed it back, saying I wasn't interested. "Wait a minute." he said. "Do you know what your looking at?" I had to admit that I didn't. He went on to explain to me how the \$10 Thai MPC coupon was used in conjunction with MPC for Thai soldiers to make a purchase in a Post Exchange.

I admitted that that made the note interesting, but not in that "miserable" condition. At best Fred's note would only grade a strong VF+ or a weak XF. There was a strong centerfold, a corner fold, four rounded corners, ink graffiti in Thai, the number "86" in red ink and four staple holes. I insisted that I couldn't put this terrible example in my collection and would wait for an uncirculated example.

Fred professed that these notes were going to be very scarce and my chance of getting an uncirculated

example were very small. We went round and round, but you know if you have ever been in a debate with Fred, you'll end in second place. I did, I capitulated and went South with the note. Today, 23 years later, I sit here looking at the note that still resides in my collection. It is one of my better dollar valued coupons and although not uncirculated, I've mellowed and IT IS one of my prized possessions.

Next week I'll tell another story about a note thetas a real prize and you sure wouldn't call it uncirculated.

=====

Editorial

Congratulations to each and every gramster. The inclusion of Larry Smulczenski's column completes the introduction of the first two regular columns in the Gram. Joe Boling and Larry Smulczenski bring a wealth of experience and insight to the gram. We are fortunate to have them and will all be better for their efforts. Thanks guys!

The really good news is that there is more room in the gram for columns! Furthermore, you need not be a veteran of 25 or more years of collecting like our two columnists. YOU could create a column on your specialty or a raw beginner could create a column from questions and new (to him/her) revalations. There is no limit to where we can take this. It is exciting and wonderful.

There is a very important letter from Eddite in the mail section. Please be sure to give it special attention.

Fred

=====

Mail Call

Hi,

I really appreciate you adding me to the mailing list, but daily email is a little to much for me at this time. I have read a lot of interesting information and I want to thank you for that. However, my e-mail inbox is growing daily to the point I can't read not respond to all of it.

Please remove me from your mailing list.

Sincerely.....Eddie

Hello Eddie,

Thank you very much for your mail. I must admit to being surprised at the content, but I am also very

interested in it (the content).

I am sure that everyone knows that it is the purpose of the gram to serve fellow collectors. Certainly we will honor your request, but I hope that your letter will spur a discussion on this matter.

Gramsters, what do you want? The direct issue here is "how many times per week?" However, there are other questions to relating to type of content and contributors.

We want and need to hear from you on this.

Fred

Dear Editor,

Many thanks to Joe Boling for sharing his story on the group of Japan notes that he sorted out and studied so closely. It even made me a little "jealous" that he had that much enjoyment in doing so. Not to mention that it also expanded my knowledge, as I did not know of the characters he mentioned, but am aware of them now.

Have seen money counted, possibly, the way he described in dealing with some of our clients. It is a very different system from ours, but it seems to work very well. I really enjoyed the article and hope the info can be put to use.

Mpckid

Dear Editor,

Tuesday's and Wednesday's grams were misdated; Tuesday was the 7th, not the 6th, and Wednesday is the 8th, not the 7th.

Joe

Dear Joe,

We have ordered a recount of day in November. We expect the recount to be finished by 1700 hrs tomorrow.

Fred

=====

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Marcus Turner, coordinator, contact

marcus@papermoneyworld.com, mail donations and material for sale/auction to:

Marcus Turner 8103 East US Highway 36 Suite 163 Avon, IN 46123 U.S.A.

Mentioned in the dispatches (for support of the summer

seminar):
Mike Cummings
Ed B.

Harold MPCKid Kroll

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Fred

PK6

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Beautiful AMC Austira 1000 schilling specimen, unc \$725.00. Reserve your note at coinman@rochester.rr.com.

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Subject:

MPC Gram 165

From:

MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>

Date:

11/10/2000, 9:14 AM

To:

mpcgram@yahoo.com

=====

MPC Gram

=====

World of Military Numismatics

Covering the Entire

Series 001 - Number 165

Friday- 10 November 2000

THE FINAL (?) WORD ON FANNING ISLAND

by Gramme A.

Re Grams 142, 147 and 149. I promised to find out numbers of any Fanning Island complete notes held by Sydney dealer John Pettit when next in contact. JP has advised serial numbers of seven notes including 1133, 1382 and 1001 (other numbers have been advised previously). The note numbered 1001 is referred to as the "Burns Philp specimen." Apparently not a true specimen, but originally in the hands of Burns Philp & Co. (an old established south seas island trader in its past) and the note is believed to be the first issued.

Summarising, serial numbers of complete notes (including those in WW11 Remembered and as advised by me in Gram 147 and by Neil Shafer in 149) are 1001, 1117, 1128, 1133, 1253, 1322, 1343, 1351, 1376, 1380, 1382, 1409, 1427, 1437, 1463, 1520, 1531, 1583, 1628, 1656, 1767, 1801, 1840, 1851, 2508, 3104, 3175 and 3416 (28 notes in total). It appears generally accepted among local dealers here in Oz that there are about 40 to 50 complete notes remaining (presumably including those without numbers).

Thanks for the editorial comments after my Fanning contribution in Gram 147. However I should point out the pen name resulted from a misspelling or mis-typing of my first name. Nevertheless, I quite like it and with Fred's permission I shall retain it.

=====
Editorial

I will be gone this weekend (non numismatic social tripe!). I expect to publish the gram Sat and or Sunday. I should also be able to receive and send email, but will not be in easy telephone contact.

Sunday is Veterans Day. The significance to our group is obvious. I think that we will break new publishing ground and start volume 2 of the Gram on Veterans Day. That would make the publishing year for the MPC Gram from Veterans Day to Veterans Day.

This is just a thought. If you have any thoughts on the matter and especially if you disagree, please send us your ideas.

Mail call includes a very important letter from Eddie. I hope that you will take the time to read and contemplate it.

=====
Mail Call

Dear Editor,

I read and enjoy the gram every day. I liked the old format better. The current format looks amateurish. Put the calendar back in.

MPC Dr T

Dear Editor,
I'm pleased to see that my complaining of the printout problem with the gram has been rectified, there is no second copy and the format seems to have deleted the extra spacing between the lines. Great job!

The "Critic"

Dear Fred,

Thank you for your response. I will respond, but please understand.....This MPC group is really special. I do not want anyone to think that I don't appreciate what each and every one of you are doing, I do. One thing I know for sure, it is more down to earth, straight forward, and interesting than any other type of collector's group that I have ever been associated with. I get the feeling, and know, that each of you are more interested in collecting as a hobby instead of 'making a dollar'. That is wonderful. (Note! baseball and football used to be this way) Actually, I am overwhelmed. There is more information than I can possibly digest or follow, mainly because I am a novice. I noticed MPC's a few months ago and started picking up a few, and starting looking for information. With your group, I got more than I bargained for. I tried to read, search, and ask questions about the information I was reading. I have actually got frustrated with myself because I couldn't keep up. That is where the 'daily' problem comes in.

New things were coming up daily that I knew that I needed to learn and I just couldn't keep up. So many things were being discussed that I knew nothing about and didn't have the time to investigate. To stay 'in the flow' I would need to.

I definitely do not find fault with the MPCgram being daily, I think it is GREAT for the experienced MPC'er for which I am not at this point. I hope to be one day, but it will take time. I definitely think that you need to maintain the MPCgram "DAILY". I commend you for all that you and your group are doing. As my experience level and collection grows I hope to maybe one day get in the loop again.

I hope my comments make sense.

Sincerely.....Eddie

Hello Again Eddie,

Wow, thank you for the wonderful letter. You have included a very important bit of informatino not included before. From your perspective, the level of discussion in the gram is too high. To me that means that it does not include enough explanation of things. I will have to think about this.

Do you have the books Comprehensive Catalog of Military Payment Certificates and World War II Remembered? If you do not, and if you will send me a shipping address, I will send you copies for examination. Most of the discussions in the gram center around these books or take off from the information included therein.

In a recent editorial, I suggest the possiblity of a column by, of and for beginners. Your letter supports this idea. We will have to think more about this. Once again, I will send you the gram in which your wonderful letter appears.

We look forward to selling you another subscription!

Fred

=====
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British Military Authority Tripolitania 100 lira (SB 326) aEF, \$80. Contact coinman@rochester.rr.com.

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Subject:

MPC Gram 168

From:

MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>

Date:

11/16/2000, 12:46 PM

To:

mpcgram@yahoo.com

=====

MPC Gram

=====

World of Military Numismatics

Covering the Entire

Series 002 - Number 168 Thurski- 16 November 2000

BAFSV INFO

by Tom W

Per the inquiry of Gramme A, yes Watermarked 1 £ Second Series BAFSV does exist. I know of two, they turned up only recently together in Liverpool UK. One is numbered AA/10 873624. I would be very interested to know details of any others of these notes.

Couple of other points. Van Elmpt told me of an error in his book P196 10/- Watermarked 2nd series - Number print run was 400,000 not 3,000,000.

The other point - Does anyone have a 2nd Series 5/- Threaded with black serial number to sell or swap?

=====

Editorial

Action has been slow at chat recently. Leo May wrote yesterday about this. First, the observation certainly seems to be correct, but the reason cannot be as

easily determined.

Leo presents an interesting example himself. After being unable to participate for six months because of travel restrictions, he is disappointed at the participation level when he returns.

I have not been a frequent participant because of bed time rules in this household featuring not a student but a school teacher.

Then there are some destructive personality and other conflicts that have manifested themselves on chat and elsewhere. These comments themselves are certain to raise some anger too. I have been the target of angry reactions so I can and do understand. I have been offended and hurt by these destructive behaviors.

Basically, I have chosen to ignore these situations as being impossible to handle in any other way. I maintain the perhaps naive hope that we can come closer together in building our hobby.

There is also the possibility that daily chat is just a realistic impossibility. A good try, perhaps, but not possible at this time. However, I do not think that we should give up yet,

I, for one will start logging into chat at 9 45pm Eastern. At least I might get a little "early chat" that way and for anyone who want to talk with me, you can know that that will be the best likely time. I certainly look forward to your thoughts on these and all other matters.

=====

Mail Call

----- Editor:

I believe a table or listing of MPC notes (& repl.) is a necessity. When someone is interested in purchasing a MPC note, they usually want to refer to a guide on what the "rough" price estimate is of that particular note. The latest price list I have seen is Oct 1999 and that one was on replacement notes only. I know the price values have escalated since then. Many potential "new" collectors may balk at joining the MPC collector ranks, due to the lack of pricing reference. They can buy excellent reference books on MPC/AMC but the prices listed are out of date. A new collector can also be stung by the overpricing of a note by unscrupulous individuals. They might think they are buying a reasonably priced note only to discover later on that the note was priced 2 or 3 times in actual value. Some collectors who are "stung" will cease their MPC/AMC collecting. These types of problems are caused by current "price listings" not being available.

A monthly listing of series, denomination, grading, and PRICES is definitely needed by the MPC/AMC collectors. The only ones who wouldn't want regular "current price listings" would be those same people who want to buy (at a fraction of actual value) or sell at exaggerated prices, from who only have outdated references. The MPC/AMC field has the excellent chance of continual growth and expansion in popularity. A pricing list would encourage others to join the MPC/AMC collecting ranks. Don't let greed corrupt the knowledge potential of MPC collectors.

PK6

Dear Editor,

Help! The last Gram I received was number 165. Have I been terminated or something?

Gramme A

Dear Gramster Gramme,

Well, we are considering doubling the subscription rate, but will not terminate anyone as long as a subscription was current at the time of the doubling.

Management

=====

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Subject:

MPC Gram 169

From:

MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>

Date:

11/17/2000, 1:22 PM

To:

mpcgram@yahoo.com

=====

MPC Gram

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World of Military Numismatics

Covering the Entire

Series 002 - Number 169 Friday- 17 November 2000

SHORT SNORTER LOOMS AS MENACE

By John Steinbeck

By telephone to the New York Herald, appeared in Sep
7, 1943 Los Angeles Examiner

SOMEWHERE IN AFRICA. (Via London). .

THE growth of the Short Snorters is one of the
greatest single menaces to come out of the war so far.

The idea started as a kind of a joke in a time when very few people flew over an ocean in an airplane. It became the custom, then for the crew of the airplane to sign their names on a one dollar bill which made the new; ocean flyer a Short Snorter. He was supposed to keep this bill always with him. If at any time he were asked if he were a Short Snorter and he did not have his signed bill with him he was forced to pay a dollar to each member present at the time when the question was asked.

It was good fun and a kind of general joke and also it

was a means of getting someone to pay for the drinks.

But then came the war and the building of thousands of ships and the transporting of thousands of men overseas by airplane and every single one became a Short Shorter. There are hundreds of thousands of Short Snorters now who have actually flown over an ocean and there are further hundreds of thousands who carry a signed bill. And the new Short Snorter goes much farther than having his bill signed by the crew which carried him on his initial crossing. The custom has grown to have the bill signed by everyone you come across. At a bar you ask your drinking companion to sign your bill. You ask generals and actors and Senators to sign your bill.

With the growing autographing one bill soon was not enough. You procured another bill and stuck it with Scotch tape to your first bill. Then the thing went farther. You began to collect bills from other countries. To your American dollar bill you stuck a one-pound English note, and to it a 50-franc Algerian note, and to it a hundred-lira bill. Every place you went you stuck the money to your growing Short Snorter until now there are people who have streamers eight and 10 feet long, which folded and rolled, make a great bundle in the pocket, and these streamers are covered with thousands of names and represent besides considerable money. Even the one dollar original is disappearing. Many new Short Snorters use \$20 bills and some even 100 bills.

These are the new autograph books. The original half of the joke has been lost. In bars, in airports, in clubs, the first thing that must be done is a kind of general exchange of signatures. Serious and intelligent gentlemen sign one another's bills with an absolute lack of humor. If the party is fairly large it might take an hour before every one has signed the bill of every one else. Meanwhile the soup gets cold.

There are favorite places on the bill for honored and desirable autographs. The little space under Morgenthau's name is one such. The wide space beside the portrait on the bill is another. If you get an autograph you want to show you have it written on a clear space, but if it is just one of the run-of-the-mill signatures it is put any place in the green part where it hardly shows up at all. It is a frantic, serious-minded, insane thing.

Men of dignity scramble for autographs on their Short Snorts. A special case, usually made of cellophane, is sometimes carried to house the bill, or the long streamer of bills because these treasures are handled so much that they would fall to pieces if they were not protected.

The effort and time involved in this curious thing is immense. Entertainers who travel about to our troops sign literally thousands of Short Snorter bills. For no longer do people have to fly an ocean to be members. The new method is that any Short Snorter can create a new Short Snorter. The club is pyramiding. Probably there are 10,000,000 Short Snorters now and every day new thousands begin to scribble on their bills. It would be interesting to know how many bills are withdrawn from circulation to be used as autograph books. They must run into the millions.

The use of large bills as Short Snorter bills has a curious logic behind it. The man or woman who used a \$20 or \$100 bill feels that he or she will not spend this money because of the signatures on it, but he also feels that if he needs to he can spend it. Thus he has a nest egg or mad money and a treasure, too. He will not toss it over a bar nor put it in a crap game, but if he really should get into a hole he has this money with him.

Very curious practices grow out of a war and surely none more strange than this one has taken over the public recently.

[tomorrow we will have a discussion of short snorters]

=====

Editorial

Ok, I admit it. I never imagined that I would be involved with the publication of a WWII numismatic book or journal featuring an article by John Steinbeck!

This amazing article was found by collector Mike Payton. If anyone would find such a thing, Mike would be a good candidate. He is a real digger.

Unfortunately, Mike is not even a computer user at the moment so he will not see these particular fruits of his efforts.

=====

Mail Call

Dear Gram,

Received gram 166 twice, then gram 168. Was there a 167? if so, please send it.

MAA

Dear MAA,

No extra charge for the extra copy of 166. We are sorry that this sometimes happens when the technology fails us (translated to incompetent operator).

Hey Fred.....

Just My Thoughts, On The Letters From, Eddie.

I've Had Time To Contemplate.....

I Must Admit That, I Also Get Lost With Some Of The
Discussion In The Gram. "It Is Over My Head," Or Of A Topic, That My
Collecting Has Not Taken Me
Yet. Not To Mention The Cost Of Some The Notes "WoW."

I Believe That It Is Important To, "Choose The Gems"
Of Information That Are Offered, Or Useful To The Level Of Experience, Or
Preference, Of Collecting. The
Gram Offers A Superb Variety Of Information, For One, I Am Very Thankful To
The Editor. Thank You, Fred. The
Addition Of A Column For "Beginners," Is A Great Idea,

But I Think It Should Be Titled, "Basics." We Would
All Benefit, Even If It Is A "Brush Up".

Small Noise, On The West Coast

Dear MPC empresario Fred,
Saw PK6's note on requesting a current update for
prices.

Yes, I agree, it would be safer to have a more
recently updated list of note values. I'm a serious
collector, but not an MPC Businessman. So, my most
used reference is your Comprehesnive Catalog MPC. I
am hoping that most prices have continued to go up
over time.

But the 651 5/10/25/50 cents issues have gone down. At least 75% down. I
won't purchase one of the
unissued two sets as they are just that, unissued. Rather, they have been
"acquired" from official
sources.

Perhaps a regular, maybe quarterly, update from the
MPC Pater Noster, yourself.

Regards, webfootbob

=====
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webmaster & technical advisor: Doug Bell - (Wiz): doug@papermoneyworld.com;
The Boss: Judy Schwan

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MPC Gram

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Covering the Entire World of Military Numismatics

Series 002 - Number 170 Sunday- 19 November 2000

Thoughts on Short Snorters

by Fred Schwan

Friday's John Steinbeck article on short snorters is by far the earliest and possibly the longest article on the subject that I have ever seen.

The exact origin of the practice of making short snorters unfortunately remains shrouded in mystery, but the significance of these notes in WWII numismatics and especially in research cannot be overstated.

The first and most obvious point is that these souvenirs carused large quantites of notes to be saved that otherwise would not. Yes, most have tape marks and other damage, but they stil exist!

Possibly more important than the survival of rare and interesting notes is the metamorphosis of common notes into something better. Yes, very often common notes in short snorters are more interesting as part of the short snorter than they would be if alone--and in unimparied condition.

Of course then there are the signatures themselves which are sometimes significant. Celebrities often signed the notes as described by Steinbeck. The most interesting type of celebrity is one that was of a common person at the time, but became famous: John Kennedy, George Bush and countless others must have signed short snorters that are even now waiting to be found.

However, from the numismatic point of view, it seems that the most interesting part of a short snorter is the ability to atribute the notes to a place and time. While such data can seldom be conclusive, it does provide information about the distribution, use, survival, and other factors of the notes in question.

In an extreme case, we might wonder why a given type of note is NOT included in a short snorter from a given time and place. We generally accept overprints, signatures and other aspects of such notes to be genuine and contemporary.

Short snorters are a special part of WWII numismatics. We are fortunatae to have them. Love, honor, and cherish your short snorter, then send in a gram article about it!

=====

Editorial

The arrival of the Bank Note Reporter is always one of the highlights of the month. The December issue arrived Saturday.

The Gram received a nice notice on page 24 of the BNR.
This is the first sort of public notice of the gram.
Hopefully, this notice will help build our subscriber
base and spread the word about MPC and other military money.

The story was the work of David Kranz of Krause
publications. Thank you, David.

=====

Mail Call

Dear Gram,

I have a 2nd series 1 pound; no security thread: aa/10 838374; got it several
years ago from UK or
Singapore; not sure which.

TomK

Dear Grame,

I just purchased a 461 .50 note on eBay which was
described as VF. When I received it, I noticed the
paper in the lower right face corner is coming apart
about a quarter of an inch as if there are two layers
of paper stuck together. I have been collecting MPC
and paper money for several years and I have never
seen this before.

The note appears authentic in all other ways - paper,
printing, etc. Is this paper separation normal or should I suspect a
counterfeit note?

LJP

To all Gramsters:

Help wanted! Can someone come up with with an updated
valuation on a Konversionskasse \$1000 bond 1936
(S-B224, p. 485)? Have any of these been showing up
lately?
Thanks much!

Neil S.

=====

Departments

WWII numismatics seminar at ANA Summer Seminar 2001

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World of Military Numismatics
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Series 002 - Number 171      Monday- 20 November 2000
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Still More Thoughts on Souvenir Notes

by Phil Goldstein

After reading Johns article, I thought I must write.
First, thanks to John for writing about a topic
different from the same old grind... (MPC, MPC, MPC, AMC, AMC, AMC)... :o)
For some time now, I have differentiating between two
different varieties of Short Snorters as:
Souvenir Notes - these are notes of regular issue
paper money, signed and possibly dated by a group of
soldiers or airmen sometimes with a location, to
record a presence at a particular place and time and
to create a souvenir. On occasion, several notes are
taped together to form streamers of short snorters.
Nice for decorations, bad for the notes!
Commemorative Notes - these notes are specifically
designed and printed to commemorate a specific
event, Printed up by military bases, units, squadrons,
etc... to commemorate a specific milestone in their
history: i.e: 458th Bombardment Groups' 200th Mission
/ 1 year anniversary in ETO, the Atomic Tests in
Japtan, Bikini, Kwajalein Islands... etc...

I am collecting Short Snorters, primarily those of
what I refer to as the commemorative variety. (However
I don't turn away interesting souvenir notes either!) These notes vary from
the basic
artwork, to the very ornate...

Either way, someone or several people went out of
their way to design these notes, print them up, and
distribute them.... In my opinion, these are a bit
more difficult to locate, whereas, I think the
souvenir notes are a bit more easier to find, as so
many soldiers kept a record of their progress through
occupied territories.

Of which that statement brings me to ask a question:

has anyone ever seen souvenir short snorters from Axis soldiers? I have only seen English and French writing... Best Wishes to all, & Happy Thanksgiving!

=====

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How high can we get? Of course that is a great questoin. The continued expansion of computers and the internet along with the expansion of the hobby will certainly help.

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Cheers, Colin

Hi Fred, I talked to yopu for a few minutes in St Louis about the gathering in Ohio but I'd like to know more about it. I'm new to MPC's I collect P.I. Guerilla currency, I'd like to really discuss the issues of the Army, USAFFE & of this series, I believe they are legitimate MPC's, Thanks for the forum! Jack

=====

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MORE THOUGHTS ON SHORT SNORTERS

by Joe Boling

Since short snorters are the topic of the week, I'll throw in a few comments.

I have long searched for notes that add to our knowledge of a series by virtue of their presence in short snorters. Examples of these are the Philippine "Co-Prosperity Sphere" notes. While replicas for collectors were reported long ago, I am not convinced that any (or at least any substantial quantities) were made, because over the years I have found just about every kind of CPS overprint in some sort of context that lends credence to its status as a vintage production. Remember that GIs who saw a CPS note in someone else's short snorter would be inspired to create more, but would naturally create ones that were different from the ones that appeared first. Different fonts and production processes would be available to the later creators, so many varieties could be expected to exist. Another class of notes that I love to find in short snorters are the Oceania replicas, thus showing that they actually were created for (or at least available to) contemporary GIs. Last week's column gave the example of a Burma 10 rupee OSS counterfeit in the short snorter of the originator of the copies. Perhaps equally telling is the fact that there is NOT a 1 rupee counterfeit in that short snorter. Of course, there is also not one of the Malay \$10 pieces, but that could be because Eifler departed the unit before the Malay counterfeits were received. Another Philippine piece, which falls into Phil Goldstein's commemorative short snorter class, is the 10 peso note overprinted to commemorate MacArthur's landing on Leyte (SB2235). Since publishing SB, we have realized that the date in the overprint is wrong; it says October 19, 1944, but the landing did not take place until 20 October. Perhaps that is why so few survive; they were discarded when they became obsolete before being issued. Yet another piece that I look for in short snorters is the Malaya \$5 with the "Grim Memories--VJ" overprint (SB2183). I have yet to find one. In the other direction, we have notes with inscriptions that are known to be wrong, and that reflect inaccurate knowledge on the part of the original inscriber. An example of this is shown on SB page 314, where a Bank of Japan one yen note bears

graffiti saying that the AMC yen were not valid in homeland Japan, which is incorrect. Another aspect of short snorters is the potential for dating them based on non-date information written on them--such as the note's value in dollars. Many examples exist of AMC yen inscribed "worth xx cents." Because we know what the exchange rates were at various times during the occupation, we can date these inscriptions to within a few months (or even weeks). How often can you link a short snorter back to a signer who was not the original owner? The Burma 10 rupee counterfeit in a Japanese collection that I wrote about last week is one. Another is a US \$2 series 1928F note that I obtained from a bank in Australia while I was on R&R there in 1968. The inscription is "Dr. Fred Loukes, Cincinnati Ohio USA." When the ANA was having its convention in Cincinnati in 1980, I wanted to arrange a presentation of the note back to Dr. Loukes as publicity for the convention. It turns out that he was a dentist, but was dead by 1980, and his son did not want to arrange a ceremony to present the note to the widow, so my idea died. Too bad.

And just to show off, I have one short snorter with some VIP signatures on it--an Oceania one pound note (one of the olive green unmarked replicas!) with signatures of Phyllis Brooks, Gary Cooper, Una Merkel (all actors) and Nathan Bronstein (presumably a producer or USO escort), along with a few GIs. Unfortunately, not a junk box find--\$25 from Ted Uhl.

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Cheers, Colin

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point is to make the gram more interesting. Send in a list of items for sale
and we will list them here in
the gram.

Here is a really neat item that I bought at the ANA
convention back in August and then promptly lost in a
pile here on my desk. It is a page WWII era chits for
Singapore. Furthermore they are BEER chits. The text
is R. N. FLEET CANTEEN / SINGAPORE. / Issue One Bottle
of Beer. The text is in a rectangle. The chits are
larger than a typical chit being about 1.5 by 2.0. The
chits are on flimsy paper printed by letter press.

I just love it, beer chit for Singapore! The price was high, but I could not resist. I will sell the sheet of four pieces for \$495. If no one buys the page, I will sell individual pieces next week for \$130.

Reserve your sheet (or single subject to prior sale of sheet) at fred@papermoneyworld.com.

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World of Military Numismatics

Covering the Entire

Series 002 - Number 173 Wednesday- 22 November 2000

ANA Scholarship Project Update

by Marcus Turner

The first ever WWII numismatics seminar, at the ANA in Colorado Springs, will be held between June 30th thru July 6th. The cost is \$510 which covers tuition, meals, and half of a double occupancy room for the week. Enrollment is expected to be limited to 15 persons. Let's show the ANA we are SERIOUS and fill

this seminar!

A special thanks (again) to John and Nancy Wilson. In St. Louis they donated a CD ROM about the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to benefit the scholarship. In addition John paid to have the name "Military Numismatists" registered as an ANA affiliated club. I figure we need to have some sort of identity other than a bunch of guys talking military money on the internet. This will be the official name we use in both soliciting and distributing funds for the scholarship. If that is not enough, today I recieved a package in the mail from John & Nancy containing a group of 1923 thru 1931 christmas club checks, including one from the Bank of Noel. These are very ornamental pieces and should bring some good money this time of year. Thanks again John & Nancy.

Some additional materials were sent to Gram HQ and are being forwarded to me. Please send future donations and other snail mail relating to the project to me at 8103 E. US Highway 36, Suite 163, Avon, IN 46123.

I recieved some input suggesting that eBay might be the best way to liquidate the donated material we recieve. If there are no objections I would like to start the process of selling these items. Look for updates in the Gram to find out what is for sale and when. As the cash starts to build, I will start posting the total funds raised. The ANA has suggested that we plan on a full scholarship costing APPROXIMATELY \$1000 per attendee to cover the \$510 fee plus airfare.

Your suggestions are desperately needed in developing the criteria that will be used to award the scholarships. Please send me your input now!

Press releases are being prepared to promote both fund raising and distribution for the seminar. Keep your eyes open in your favorite numismatic publication!

More news to follow as it develops....

=====
Editorial
=====

I hope that everyone is as excited about the ANA WWII summer seminar and the scholarship program as Marcus and I are. This is a great thing and Marcus is doing a wonderful job.

I personally think that selling the auction material on ebay is the best way to go. Instead of having a mass of material, we (Marcus) can have one or more item on ebay at all times (hopefully) and of course included in the description is a virtual advertisement for the seminar, the scholarship fund, and the Gram.

However, these are just my feelings. We certainly need to hear your ideas.

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Cheers, Colin
Dear Gram,

Can you connect me to collectors of JIM Notes
(Japanese Invasion Money)??
jbeckman

Dear J,
You have come to the right place. The Gram covers the entire world of military money. I suggest that the best way to contact fellow gramsters interested in JIM is to offer a few items for sale or write an article. Nothing fancy needed. We love to hear just about everything from everybody!

Fred

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World of Military Numismatics

Covering the Entire

Series 002 Number 174 Thurski-turkey gram- 23 Nov 2000

Treasure is where you find it

by Larry Ski

In my last column I mentioned that I would write about a note that I prize, but one that would probably win

an award in a display of the worlds worst condition notes. On a scale of 1 to 10 this note probably would grade minus 3, but it still holds a hallowed spot in the collection of a guy who prides himself on collecting "nice" notes.

In the mid 80's, when I was stationed at Clark Air Base in the Philippines, Chief Master Sergeant Joe Peace and I made at least a monthly trip to Manila to pursue our hobbies--Joe to chase coins and I to look for banknotes. One Sunday each month, the three major numismatic societies in the Philippines, the Philippine Numismatic and Antiquarian Society (PNAS), the Banknote Society of the Philippines (BNSP) and the Bayaniyan Club (Friendship) held a joint luncheon/ bourse/ auction at a prominent location in Manila. About 8 AM, Joe and I would pack out briefcases and head down the tollway from Clark to Manila, which was at best a 90 minute to 2 hour trip. It was always an exciting trip, combating Filipinos driving motorcycles, jeepneys, trucks, and buses all trying to beat one another into the big city.

Arrival at the meeting site was always fun. Fifty to 60 people usually attended these gatherings and brought with them not only coins and paper money, but books, postcards, medals, small antiques and other interesting items. The attendees were from varied backgrounds running the gamut from lawyers and politicians to farmers and peasants. However everyone had a common interest in numismatics and everyone knew what everyone else had a specific interest in. They all knew of my interest in Philippine banknotes especially in World War II guerrilla currency.

I remember in particular one little old gentleman who monthly made the trip to Manila from the island of Romblon. We had talked and done business on a number of occasions as he had found and sold me some difficult guerrilla notes from Romblon. I remember one particular Sunday when he came running over with some Culion Leper Colony notes. I bought them without question and then he asked if I would be interested in a 1936 100 Peso note. "But of course, I replied. I knew this was a really tough note, but when I saw him pull out of his notebook this decrepit, moldy note, I almost cried. The red colors in the seal and serial number were almost bleached away. The black ink was also very weak on the face. The design in yellow-green on the back was almost indistinguishable. "Only \$25, he said. "No, I replied and thought to myself that I couldn't possible put this note into my collection as it might infect the rest of my notes with whatever disease it might have. He tried to convince me but I laughed him off and went to look at items that others had for sale.

Throughout the morning, I noticed that he would glance my way as if looking for an opportunity to come back and bring it up again. I purposely avoided him. Once he got close enough to say "Twenty dollars? I shook

my head no. After lunch, I was the auctioneer for the groups and went through the normal 200 or so lot auction. As I walked away from the podium, I noticed my friend coming up to my side. "Ten dollars, he said, "I need the money to get home." I told him I'd give him the money rather than buy the note. His pride would not allow him to do that. In a final attempt, he pulled from his notebook, a US \$5 bill that was in tatters. It really was in worse shape than the 100 Peso note. He admitted that this note was in such bad shape that no one in the Philippines would accept it, but he knew that I could take it to the finance office on base and they would redeem it. I knew I was beat. I had to buy the notes. I gave him the \$10, he smiled, shook my hand and said he would see me next month. Joe and I had a good laugh about the incident as we drove home. We chuckled about "needing the money to get home" when I had bought over \$100 in Culion Leper Colony notes from him. Sly old fox that he was. I didn't look at the notes for a couple of days. When I did, and went to my Pick catalog to get the Pick number, I was shocked. The note was a 1936 100 Peso note alright, BUT, the serial number--D42988D--identified it as one of the War Department Notes. I grabbed my World War II Military Currency by Schwan-Boling (World War II Remembered wasn't published until years later) and confirmed that it was one of the notes covertly sent to the Philippines to support operations against the Japanese. It was not an artificially aged note, but one of the other series of which only 15,000 were issued. So the sow's ear actually did turn into a silk purse and the note still resides in my collection. In fact, I still own both notes. I have never run across another one of the War Department notes on a dealer's list nor in an auction although I did see a couple in Philippine and U.S. collections.
<http://www.papermoneyworld.com/mpcgram/thurskil.jpg>

=====
Editorial

The Gram staff wishes every gramster a happy Thanksgiving. When you are recovering from your feast, pull out some of your favorite notes and journey to far away places and times. Then write a gram article about your favorite note! We all would like to read about it!

=====
Mail Call

Dear Gramsters:

Happy Thanksgiving to you. Nancy and I wish all of you a healthy, happy and fulFILLING day.

Just one comment regarding "Military Numismatists," joining the ANA. Fred actually donated at least half

the money for the membership. We appreciate the Military Numismatists becoming part of the largest coin collecting association in the world. When we say coin we actually also saying paper money, tokens and medals and other related items to our hobby.

Thanks to Fred, Marcus, Phil, Harold, Doug and the boss Judy Schwan for putting out a terrific E-mailing covering an important part of our hobby. Yours in Numismatics, John and Nancy Wilson

=====

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11/24/2000, 12:20 PM

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mpcgram@yahoo.com

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MPC Gram

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World of Military Numismatics

Covering the Entire

Series 002 - Number 175

Friday- 24 November 2000

Italian Prisoners of War in Auburn, Washington by Alice Koch as rewritten by Tom Koch

During WWII, in 1945, while visiting my in-laws in Auburn an event took place every Monday night which piqued my curiosity. A large group of men marched along C. St. S.W. with guards on each side. They spoke in a foreign language, chattering happily as they walked. They were on their way to their weekly outing at the movies. I later learned that they were Italian Prisoners of War.

I recently research the subject at the Auburn newspaper and at the Ft. Lewis Army Museum:

1) Auburn Globe News 23 August 1944

Relieving an extreme labor shortage in this area, the 55th Q. M. (Italian) Service co. Comprised of 4 Italian officers and 215 men, arrived at Auburn Holding and Reassignment Point on Aug. 19th 1944 (known as The Point). They were put to work keeping the grounds clean, reclaiming salvage material and repairing and maintaining railroad tracks; types of

work for which it has been practically impossible to obtain civilian labor. It was said that should civilian labor for this kind of work later become available the Italians would be removed. The Italian workers are housed at The Point in barracks formerly used by employees of a construction company. The company is under the supervision of Capt. Fred W. Mackie QMC and six American soldiers. They receive no extra pay for their labor, but as prisoners of war are allowed \$24.00 in cash per month part of which is in cash and part in redeemable canteen coupons. It was stated that a post exchange, a branch of Ft. Lewis, will be established at the Point.

In announcing the arrival of the 55th QM Service Co. A communication was issued explaining the rules and conditions governing the group while on work detail.

It must be understood by everyone, that these troops have volunteered for this duty to help speed the end of the war and to assist the United States in any way possible in the war effort. That they have been thoroughly screened by Military Intelligence and found not to be pro-Nazi and pro-Fascist, screening continues all during the period they are in service. Italian personnel will occasionally be given group passes to leave the Military Reservation under the supervision of the C. O. Of the 55th Q. M. Service Co. Or one of the American Personnel Assistants. The only extra payment members of the unit receive for working for the American war effort is in additional freedom which includes sight seeing and educational tours. This extra freedom is in recognition by the Army of the efficiency and value of work performed. All members of the unit understand that if they abuse their privileges, they may immediately be returned to the prison camps as ordinary prisoners of war and punished according to the severity of their offense. All members at all times when off the Military Reservation have securely secured on their left arm of their shirt and the left side of their caps, the identifying emblem Italy to denote the difference between the American soldiers and the Italian service company personnel. It is again brought to the attention of the public that these men are here of their own free will, that they have volunteered their service to help the War Effort and that they have not been sent here to replace civilian employees but to work where it is impossible to hire civilians to do a necessary job.

2) The next article, although repetitious of the above, was in the Auburn Globe News, 20 Sept. 1944.

Italians Cause Strike Threat to The Point.
25 or 30 employees-freight haulers threatened to walk off the job but the strike was averted. It was assured that the Italian workers would not interfere with their jobs. They only did this in their spare time and in no way would interfere with the civilian employees.

At Ft. Lewis Museum, some additional information was available:

Italian Service Units:

Formed when Italy became a co-belligerent from those Italian prisoners of war who asked permission to work in direct connection with the Allied War effort. Strength about 33,000. About 12,000 working in ports of embarkation; 8,500 in ordinance; 12,000 in Quartermaster depots; and about 5,900 working in Service command installations. This was nation wide.

Other nationwide statistics

Total Italian prisoners	50,578
Total German prisoners	305,578
Total Japanese prisoners	2,820

Base camps in the continental United States	135
Branch camps	308

Total camps	443
-------------	-----

Money value of PW dork during 1944	\$102,000,000
------------------------------------	---------------

The prisoners were used at 160 skills during 1944. They worked in laundries, clothing, warehouses, QM shops and other post supplies, maintenance, bakeries and messes. They also worked in picking cotton, fruits, sugar cane fields, harvesting crops, pulpwood, packing of fruits and vegetables, and relates types of work.

Total numbers of escapees as of 9 Feb. 1945

Germans	1,073
Italians	227
Japanese	1

Total numbers of apprehensions as of 9 Feb 1945

Germans	1,066
Italians	220
Japanese	1

The first prisoners of war left Tacoma Pier 1 in Feb. 1946 to begin their long trip back to their native land.

Attached are notes on 2 graves of POWs.

One German POW; Albert Marquardt, Captain (no unit given) is buried at Ft. Lawton Military Cemetery,

Seattle, Washington. An Italian POW, Olivotto
Guglieano is also buried there. These graves were both
outside the perimeter of the cemetery.

=====
Editorial

The community support for the gram has been wonderful!
Your articles, letters, inquiries, and even occasional
complaints have been great.
Keep it up! The editorial demands of even a short
newsletter on a DAILY basis are amazing so keep that
information flowing!

=====
Mail Call

Hi Guys!

I think you all know, I'm in the process of purchasing
a 4x4 for winter and regular use vehicle, so I don't run my street rod 71
Monte into the ground. In the process of TRYING to
pick a vanity plate (PRIORITIES!!!) for the new truck when I get it and need
your input. If you don't
see something you like, think up your own. New York
custom plates are limited to 8 characters total

641 DIME	ILOVEMPC 64110CNT	ICLCTMPC
64110NUT	IWANTMPC 641 NUT	WANTUMPC
641FREAK	MIL PAY MPC	
MPCCLCTR	MILCUR20	
MPCFREAK	2MUCHMPC	
MPCWANTD	SERIE641 MPCWACKO	SER 641
MPCMULTI	641 PACK	
MPC AMC	MULTIMPC	

MPC NUT (thought of this one, but don't really want to
use this one as it's Kevins eBay name)

NICOLE (as much as I love it, don't want to really use
it as it may be construed as a wife/girlfriends name,
and also any other female in my life may get jealous)

Thanks in advance for all your help.

Phil

=====
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Beautiful gem uncirculated MPC Series 681 \$20 (first printing), \$220 postpaid. Reserve your note via email fred@papermoneyworld.com.

Books of interest from BNRPress@papermoneyworld.com.

Paper Money of the Bank of France by Claude Fayette is a great paper money book. Sure it is in French and does not have a lot of material directed specifically at WWII material, it does have everything on the bank of France and DOES include some important WWII info not in Remembered (yet). The highlight is the full color reproduction of the face and back of all of the beautiful Bank of France notes. Price is only \$79 postpaid. If you will send your order via email and mention the gram, we will send the book with an invoice. This and all of our books come with a 100% satisfaction money back guarantee. Thanks.

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11/25/2000, 12:22 PM
To:
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World of Military Numismatics

Series 002 - Number 176 Saturday- 25 November 2000

A Love Affair with Short Snorters

by Neil Shafer

I love short snorters! Not only have I been gathering these homeless waifs up every time I see them (practically), I've written about them for years, first in the Whitman Numismatic Journal in the 1960s and several times in BNR as well. And believe me, those good signatures are really out there waiting for YOU to find them! I have been lucky that way, having found movie stars, political figures, high-ranking military individuals among others. One of the best turned to be a lone signature on a small Italian note of World War II vintage. That signature was only Humphrey Bogart, and I had Scott Winslow authenticate it for me. He said it's quite a rare one because he is so well known even today. By the way, that finding occurred, would you believe, this year!!

The special significance of a snort snorter, single or roll, is that such items meant something very special to the original owner, and we who find them later on can only try to capture a little of that feeling and meaning they represented at one time. Good Hunting!

=====
Editorial

We are now at about 130 subscribers. I hope that the notice in the BNR will add a few more. The rest will be up to us. I hope that each and every one of you promotes the gram to your email friends.

How high can we get? Of course that is a great question. The continued expansion of computers and the

internet along with the expansion of the hobby will certainly help.

One outreach idea that we are working on is helping computer hating collectors get on line by using the local library. We believe that if we can get MPC collectors to create email address, receive the gram, and check their mail once a week at the library (or other location), we will make them into gramsters!

We are equally sure that there are other ways to recruit gramsters. We appreciate your efforts in this regard and look forward to talking the gram to new heights of subscriptions and quality of features.

=====

Mail Call

Hey,

New IBNS Journal shows MPC Fest II as 23-25 February. You're not keeping Steve informed.

Why have you run Colin Bruce's letter about his first encounter with a short snorter three times?

Joe

Dear Gram,

I am requesting a subscription to your free newsletter, MPC Gram. Reference: Dec. 2000 Banknote Reporter page 24.

Have been a part time collector since the 50's.

Thank you very much.

Very respectfully,

Dan N.

Dear Dan,

Welcome! Did you collect paper money in the 1950s?

What kind? One common feature in the gram is for collectors to share how they got started in military money and other thoughts "from the old days." We certainly would love to have some of your thoughts.

Editor

=====

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World of Military Numismatics

Covering the Entire

Series 002 - Number 177 Saturday- 26 November 2000

Hitler's Lake

news release submittted by Len H. from cointoday.com

"Hitler's Lake" yields counterfeit currency
(11/21/2000) A salvage firm that recovered wreckage
from well-known space and aviation disasters has found
evidence in an Alpine lake of a Nazi operation to
counterfeit US dollars and British pounds, CBS News
said on Monday.

It said that the Tuesday edition of "60 Minutes II"
would solve a lingering mystery of World War Two: what
evidence of crimes by Adolf Hitler's German government
was hidden on the floor of Lake Toplitz in the
Austrian Alps more than a half-century ago.

CBS enlisted Oceaneering Technologies -- the salvage
company that recovered wreckage from the explosions of
the US space shuttle Challenger in 1986 and TWA Flight
800 in 1997, as well as from the crash of John Kennedy
Jr.'s private plane in 1999 -- to search the lake
floor for man-made objects linked to the Nazis,
supposedly seen dumping evidence there.

Over a four-week period, a diving team using a one-man
submarine searched the lake bottom, some 350 feet (110
metres) below the surface, before finding a debris
field that contained counterfeit British pound notes
and US dollars.

"Yes, these are the ones I was printing," Adolf
Burger, one of 140 Jewish concentration camp prisoners
forced to work on Hitler's secret counterfeiting project, told CBS.

Burger said that after perfecting the British pound,

the Sachsenhausen print shop, outside Berlin, copied the US \$100 bill. "The first 200 bills were finished on Feb. 22, 1945. We were supposed to start printing the first million dollars the next day, but on that day ... there was an order from the Reich security's main office to stop work and dismantle the machinery."

Holocaust scholar Rabbi Marvin Hier commented that "had this counterfeiting operation (been) fully organized in 1939 and early 1940, results of World War II may have been quite different."

The recovered notes were given to LP3, the French paper conservation company that preserved material from the Titanic. Artifacts from "Hitler's Lake" -- in the "Alpine fortress" to which the Nazis had planned to evacuate Hitler and a guerrilla army in 1945 -- will be displayed at the Simon Wiesenthal Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles.

=====
Editorial

It is obvious that where CBS went wrong was not hiring gramsters to help with the production and most of all that they did not advertise this edition of "60 Minutes" in the Gram!
=====

Mail Call

----- Dear Gramsters,

Did anyone watch "60 Minutes II" last night? It was a real disaster. They claimed to be doing a story on "Hitler's Secret" sunk in the Austrian Lake Topletzsee. They implied that this great secret was unknown, and implied further that nobody had been able to discover what was in the boxes sunk by the SS at the end of WWII.

In fact, there were no secrets and most of the boxes were recovered long ago. The secret of course was "Operation Bernhard" and it is such a secret that you are regularly offered banknotes from this operation by paper money dealers around the world. Everyone knows that the Germans forged British pound notes.

The second lie was the implication that this stuff had not been raised before. It has been brought up a number of times over the years, and back in the 70s they brought up wheelbarrels full of banknotes, documents and even the type used to print the notes. Many of the boxes broke apart as they were being brought up, and that was what the 60-Minute crew found. Some broken boxes, some rotted old banknotes. I guess they had to hype this show since they spent a lot of money on it, but it was all BS.

The single interesting fact to come out of the story was from a former Jewish prisoner who had been part of the forgery operation. He stated that US currency had been successfully forged by February 22, 1945 and the plan was to start printing a million banknotes the following day. The advance of the Russians forced this plan to be abandoned.

There has been debate for many years about whether or not the Germans successfully finished a U.S. \$100 greenback. If the forger is to be believed, the answer is "yes."

Joe B.

Dear Editor,

I was looking at some 541 mpc pieces in my collection and noticed printer alignment marks on 4 of them. I then reviewed the rest of the mpc in my collection and found no similar pieces. Is this anomaly unique to the 541 series? What is the cause of it? Was the printer (Tudor) lacking in quality control in their cutting process?

TomK

Dear Tom,

This is a very interesting and good question. You can find the marks on other series, but they are most common on Series 541 which is known to have had sub standard quality. We have been doing some work in this area, but much more needs to be done. One interesting approach is to study the positions (numbers) where the marks are found.

Thanks and good luck. We will watch for a more detailed report!

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11/27/2000, 7:38 AM
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World of Military Numismatics

Series 002 - Number 178 Monday- 27 November 2000

Covering the Entire

Mystery Notes from Viet Nam

by Nick Shrier

Here is my story on the Tuy Hoa, Vietnam air base paper money (pseudo MPC) that I had for about 4 hours. This current looked like the series 541 MPC and was used at Tuy Hoa AB during the construction of this base in ca ~1966-67. The notes, as I recall, were 10, 25 and 50 cents \$1, \$5 and \$10 and was used only on base. When the base was completed the civilian contractors, BRJRMK ?... (I can't remember now) moved on and currency disposed of. This set was bot at the Atlanta flea market and was in a frame with tape (too bad!!).

Outside a pawn shop on Edgewood, I parked the car and went in. Damn Jap car lock did not work, when you closed it the locks popped up unless you held it down. An unsavory gang was in the area behind the shop swizzling booze and I suspect them. When I came back to the car, it was open and the frame gone.

(Silverware on the floor was still there) 3-4 months later I was back in Atlanta and checked at a market across the street with antique shops in the basement. One person remembered the frame but it had been sold. So somewhere in Atlanta the Tuy Hoa currency resides. Anybody else know of similar currency? Phan Rhang was built the same way.

=====
Editorial

Just received the M2C2 Newsletter. As most of you know this is the publication of the Military Money Collectors Club. In some ways it is the forerunner of the gram. It is a traditional print newsletter, but in every other way it is not traditional. First of all, of course the subject matter is a little unusual.

Second and foremost, just like your gram, it is distributed for free! The catch is that you must send a business self addressed stamped envelope to receive the newsletter. This was a very interesting deliberate decision of the founders. It keeps the news letter free and without obligations. It also forces "subscribers" to stay in touch and hopefully send in tidbits for publication as they request their newsletter.

This newsletter has a great article by Joe Boling on his personal history of MPC collecting. It is an article very fitting for publication here in the gram and I will try to get Joe to revise it and publish it here in a few months.

You can obtain an M2C2 Newsletter by sending the business SASE to the hero of M2C2, Marv Mericle at Box 26, Prairie Creek, In 47869. Marv and I might form the Military Money Newsletter Editor Society! Perhaps we should call it Marv's Military Money Madness, or possibly Fred's Follies? I suspect that some of you might be able to help us with more insightful names!

Even though the newsletter is free, it is not without expenses, and it would be wonderful if you included one (or a few) dollar bills in with your request.

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Mail Call

----- Dear Sleepy,
The commentary on the "60 Minutes II" report on Operation Bernhard, published in gram 177, did NOT come from me, and should not have been signed Joe B. It came from Herb Friedman. Joe

Dear Gram,

Fanning Island whole 1 pound note #1583, wherever it is now, was the one sent to Boys Town for their collection. I do not know what became of that collection- wasn't it all sold? Anyway I thought Gramsters would like to know the provenance of one of the whole notes listed. It was in an old article clipped out of a numismatic paper years ago.
Neil S.

Dear Editor,

I just started getting your "MPC Grams" recently and I have wanted to ask you a couple of questions. First of all, my large collection of Vietnam Era MPC's were stolen from my things in Sicily, Italy!! I had to be MediVac'ed to Weisbaden, Germany in 1985 and then I was sent by C-141 to Eisenhower Hospital, Fort Gordon, Georgia! (I was Navy for over 22 years) While

I was sent to the states, my wife had to over-see the Italians pack our things and take our two kids and catch the next plane out the next day. Well, since they knew she had to leave the next day and that I was gone to the states already, they ripped me off of all but one MPC and most of my expensive World Coins, leaving only the cheap coins to be shipped back to the states! Well, obviously, my wife cried but, they laughed and kept on taking my stuff!

Anyway, could you tell me anything about the history of the MPC that I still have?? It is a \$5.00 Note Series 681 and Serial Number #C00238418C. (There is a small "30" to the left of the series number.) I know that the sailor is a 1st Class Signaller but, that is all I can figure out. I really do not know the type of ship in the background. There is a red splotch of something located to the left of the picture and this note appears to be in a "VF" condition.

Also, you mentioned in the gram before last, that you had Culion Leper Colony Notes? Well, I am trying to collect any and all Leper Colony World Coins. I have tried to get the above mentioned Leper Colony Coins from the Philippines but..... zip!

I also collect JIM Notes (Japanese Invasion Money)!! I would be happy to tell you which ones I have collected so far, if you are interested! Sorry, I only collect things....I do not have enough things to actually sell. I also collect German Invasion Notes from 1914-1924, old coins of Prussia (1800's), German Nazi coins, German Occupation coins of WWII of Belgium, German Empire coins, German Weimar coins, Bi-metallic coins (Member of the W.B.C.C.), Russian Czar Paper Money, also the World's Worst Inflation PM of Yugoslavia (1993), Croatia-Serbian (1993), and Hungary (1946), other World PM (just for topic & colors), Tokens, Medallions, Chips (Casino Chips), and World Coins!! Presently I have 410 different countries out of 1,900 World Coins. The only Leper Colony coin I have is a 1921RH two Centavos from a Leper Colony in Columbia. Minted at Bogotá; with a mintage of 350,000 and a grade of "VF"! The only history I have of this coin is from my latest "1999 Krause World Coin Catalog"! I also have looked for Leper Coins from Venezuela but they and I suppose almost all Leper Colony coins are too costly for me! (The cost is the reason I sold-off all of my U.S. coins so that I could buy much cheaper World Coins!)

Well, now that I really bored you.....I hope to hear from you soon!

John T. B.

Hello John,

Thank you for your very nice letter. I cannot respond to most of the items, but will run it in the gram and you should get some response.

Do you have the books "Comprehensive Catalog of Military Payment Certificates" and/or "World War II Remembered." Some/many of your questions will be answered there. Of course I think that you should have them in your personal library, but they should also be available via interlibrary loan. They certainly are available from the ANA library.

Thanks again for writing.

Fred

=====

Departments

WWII numismatics seminar at ANA Summer Seminar 2001

Marcus Turner, coordinator, contact
marcus@papermoneyworld.com, mail donations and material for sale/auction to:
Marcus Turner 8103 East US Highway 36 Suite 163 Avon, IN 46123 U.S.A.
Mentioned in the dispatches (for support of the summer seminar):

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Ed B.

Harold MPCKid Kroll

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Marcus Turner

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first.

Albania WWII Italian occupation bearer check, Banka E.
Shetit Shqiptar, 100 franga- Tirana, 18/4/1945, Series
Ja, SB 312, \$300, Ian Marshall, confirm at
iam@total.net.

MPC Series 661 50c CU, \$20, David Seelye,
coinman@rochester.rr.com.

Books of interest to MPC collectors from
BNRPress@papermoneyworld.com.

World War II Remembered, the classic book, necessary in
every library. Price is only \$69 postpaid. If you will
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Subject:

MPC Gram 179

From:

MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>

Date:

11/28/2000, 12:10 PM

To:

mpcgram@yahoo.com

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MPC Gram

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World of Military Numismatics

Covering the Entire

Series 002 - Number 179 Tuesday- 28 November 2000

A New Propaganda Leaflet

by Herb Friedman

A previously unknown propaganda leaflet in the form of a German military occupation banknote was recently discovered. It was in a group of military paper sold by a Russian collector.

The note is a Russian parody of a German 50 Reichspfennig Reichskreditkassen of 1939-1945 [P-R135], forming a safe conduct pass for German troops.

The front is a reproduction of the front of the genuine note in green. The size is 88x56mm. The back contains black text on white paper. Russian text at the top reads "PASS ACROSS THE FRONT" and similar text at the bottom reads "Command of the Red Army."

There is German text in the central area within a frame. The text reads, "GEHT MIT DISEM PASSIERSCHEIN DURCH DIE FRONT / Deutsche Soldaten! Allen, die auf die Seite der Roten Armee ubergehen, wird garantiert: das Leben, gute Behandlung und die Heimkehr nach Kriegsende. / Oberkommando der Roten Armee" ("Go through the front with this safe conduct pass / German soldiers! All of you who come over to the Red Army are guaranteed life, good treatment, and a homecoming at the end of the war. / High Command of the Red Army.").

The Reichskreditkassen (Reich's Credit Treasury Notes) were legal tender alongside the local currency in numerous occupied countries and territories during WWII. The Reichsbank was authorized to issue the non-convertible currency. They were first used in Poland in 1939. Later they were used all across occupied Europe including the USSR.

German soldiers received their pay in Reichskreditkassen that was legal tender at a specific exchange rate with the local currency, usually the same as the pre-invasion rate between the reichsmark and the local legal tender. This currency was legal tender only in the occupied area and had to be spent there. Its value was forfeited upon return to Germany.

=====
Editorial

In a recent MPC chat Tom K came up with a wonderful idea. He suggested that for holiday gifts many of the spouses of gramsters would like their very own copy of World War II Remembered. I thought that was just a wonderful idea!

We very pleased to have Herb Friedman as a new gram contributor. Herb is the leading authority on propaganda notes. He has forgotten more about these

items than most of us will ever know! Welcome Herb.

=====

Mail Call

Dear Phil,

Here are some additional ideas:

MPCLOVER
MPCLUVER
MPCLUST
MPCJOY
MPCMAN
MPCHNCHO
VNMPC6
VNMPCMAN
VIETMPC6

Regards, webfootbob

=====

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MPC Series 661 50c CU, \$20, David Seelye, coinman@rochester.rr.com.

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MPC Gram 180

From:

MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>

Date:

11/29/2000, 10:41 AM

To:

mpcgram@yahoo.com

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MPC Gram

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World of Military Numismatics

Covering the Entire

Series 002 - Number 180 Wednesday- 28 November 2000

Tuesday column

A Strange Visit to a Dealer,
and another military acquisition

Joe Boling

Fred keeps bugging me to tell this story. In the summer of 1976 I was driving across the country visiting friends, relatives, and dealers on my way to Fort Harrison (Indianapolis) for a 13-week school.

I had been buying Japanese coins from Almanzar's in San Antonio for several years, so I wanted to drop in there (among several other shops in SA). I finally got there one early afternoon and asked to see their world paper money, emphasizing Asia (by that time my type set of Japanese coins had been completed).

I was told that they had a fair quantity of foreign paper money, but that they didn't have time to show it to me. I reminded them that their principal stock in trade was Latin American material, and that they never listed nor auctioned the kinds of notes I was interested in; if they were ever to sell them, it would have to be across the counter in their shop, and I was there as a ready buyer. They still insisted that they did not have time to show me their carton of world notes. I asked why, as there were obviously a couple of clerks in the shop, in addition to other staff in the back room working on an auction. The response was that someone would have to sit with me while I went through the box, and they could not afford to dedicate a clerk to me for that purpose.

I asked what it would take to hire a clerk to watch me; the answer was \$20 an hour. I said OK, bring out the box and assign a clerk; here was my first \$20. I spent almost two hours going through that box, and found the following items that I can still recall and identify:

the first known violet Malaya \$100 note (SB2178b) in AU, \$3 (there are now 3-4 known) a counterfeit Central Reserve Bank of China 500 yuan note (SB1241aq), the first I had seen, in XF for \$2.50 a Japanese military ten yen note (SB2011) with rubber stamps on the back of Lawrence P. Hoseman, whoever he is (F, 75 cents) a Japanese military five yen note (SB2025) with odd vermilion and ink characters stamped and written on it

(I still have not figured out their significance), VG for 30 cents.

The total invoice reads:

consultation \$20 misc notes \$19.45. You can see from the \$6.55 accounted for above that I bought a lot more

notes that day, and it was the best \$20 consultation fee I ever paid.

Many of you know that a subset of my collection, unrelated to Japan, is "notes of cities I've lived in." I was born on Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, and opened an account at the National Bank of Fort Sam Houston as soon as I entered the army, in 1964. I wanted a note on that bank (it was one of the note-issuing national banks), and had been looking for one for several years. Lo and behold, Riverside Coin Company in San Antonio had a box of low-grade nationals, not even in holders, that contained TWO \$5 notes on the Fort Sam Bank. They were both dirty and limp; as I debated which to buy, I noticed the serial number on one--E001964A. Notice above the year that I opened my account; that note is still in my collection (VG-F for \$30), and it is still a tough bank.

=====

Editorial

Yes, as Joe said above, I have been hounding him to tell the story of how he had to pay a consulting fee to go through a dealer's inventory. He and other contributors run the risk that if they do not tell these stories that I will and there will certainly be a different slant!

If I had known about finding the national in the Riverside shoe box (my embellishment), I had forgotten it. In reading the story now, I shake my head because only Joe Boling (not really only Joe) would find two rare notes like that at low prices and agonize over which to buy instead of buying them both! Joe, I will take the other one!

=====

Mail Call

Good Morning:

Just a couple of thoughts. I may have solved the mystery of the Filipino JIM with no block or serial numbers. That is if nobody else has.

I have one with the block number "87" so faint you can hardly see it. Maybe they just ran out of ink. I would be intersted in knowing if any block numbers higher than "87" have been observed. My other question is: Did the Military Money Collectors Club go out of existence?

G. W. Slade

=====

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French Equatorial Africa, 5,000 francs (SB 1187), specimen with margin notations, vf-ef, \$7500, Ian Marshall, confirm at iam@total.net.

MPC Series 681 \$5 CU, \$48, David Seelye, coinman@rochester.rr.com.

Books of interest to MPC collectors from BNRPress@papermoneyworld.com.

MPC Series 641 \$1, gem CU (SNJ05712329J), \$35. Confirm at fred@papermoneyworld.com. Thanks, Fred Schwan.

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MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>

Date:

11/30/2000, 12:58 PM

To:

mpcgram@yahoo.com

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MPC Gram

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World of Military Numismatics

Series 002 - Number 181 Thurski- 30 November 2000

Covering the Entire

You thought that you knew everything
African notes

about US North

by Larry Smulczenski

Last week during the chat, Brad asked if anyone had seen a U.S. Note that was issued in South Africa. He had seen an advertisement for such a note. After a short discussion, we concluded that the reference was probably confusing north with south and this was probably a North Africa yellow seal note. If we're

wrong and anyone knows of a U.S. issued South Africa note we'll quit eating turkey leftovers and start eating crow. Anyway, I had to ask if anyone had heard of a North Africa \$10 yellow seal Silver Certificate that was changed to appear to be a green seal Federal Reserve Note? I got back several incredulous "Say what's?" and "Tell more." I should have done my best Fred Schwan impersonation and said "Guys, read the book." I didn't however, I promised to talk about it in the next Thurski column. So her we go---

The note is really remarkable. It is listed as #604 on page 401 World War II Remembered. I use the word remarkable because of the effort that went into making the changes to this note. Although this note has many errors, it still would easily fool the general public and even confuse the average collector. If you click on the link

www.papermoneyworld.com/mpcgram/thurski2.jpg -- you will find scans of four notes. The first is a real \$10 yellow seal North Africa Silver Certificate. The second is the altered note. The third is a real \$10 green seal Federal Reserve note which the altered note should look like. Finally the fourth note shows how elements were removed from a North Africa note prior to applying the new elements.

The North Africa notes were issued shortly after the HAWAII notes and for the same reason. If Allied positions were overrun by the enemy, resulting in a large amount of money falling into enemy hands, then steps could be taken to invalidate the notes and make them worthless to the enemy. The North Africa notes were \$1, \$5, and \$10 Silver Certificates with yellow seals instead of the normal blue seal.

As is common in any war zone, money gets into the hands of the black market. The belief was that the yellow seal notes were not legal tender for use outside the war zone or back in the United States. This was probably correct at that time and therefore the notes were not very useful for black market use and other illegal activities. This bothered the illegal holders of these notes as they might find themselves with valueless notes.

Some enterprising "artist" altered the yellow seal silver certificate to approximate a green seal Federal Reserve note. The changes involved changing both the blue serial numbers and yellow seal to green, adding the black Federal Reserve Seal of New York and changing the position of the obligation clause. Overall, the work was excellent, however notice the "N" in New York in the title-- Bank

of New York-- it is either backward or inverted. You will also notice that the words "Silver Certificate" at the very top of the note were not changed. Additionally the obligation clause was moved, but is the one that appears on a Silver Certificate, not the one that should appear on a Federal Reserve Note.

Close examination of the Treasury Seal shows that a trace of yellow remains in the seal. It is not known where this exacting work was done, but fingers point toward Switzerland, although other say Italy or North Africa. How exactly were the bills prepared so that the new seals, serial numbers and obligation clause could be applied? That was a question that we were kicking around until Bill Duvoos came up with the note shown at the bottom of today's scan. He sat listening to a presentation at the IBNS membership meeting in Memphis and rubbed on the elements to be removed with the eraser of a pencil. By the end of the presentation,

the serial numbers, the blue "10", the yellow treasury seal and the obligation clause were gone. Yes, you can take a simple wooden pencil with eraser, and rub the ink off the paper. The note was now ready to apply the new elements if we had that capability. How many notes were changed like this one? That answer is unknown, but we do know of six that have been reported in collections. World War II Remembered lists five serial numbers plus the one shown here. One of these B67357293C is in the Smithsonian in Washington D.C.; the rest reside in private collections. If you know of any others, we would appreciate knowing about them.

=====

Editorial

You will find in the letters section that I have made some elaborate promises about Fest II. We need to start talking seriously about this. Fire away with your questions and ideas so that we can fix some of the plans.

=====

Mail Call

Dear Fred,

Thanks for putting me on your gram net. I find it interesting but have quite a job of keeping track of what I've read. I was away for 10 days. On reading my mail on my return I came across a correspondence about some RN beer tickets.

I blomed if I can find it again. Can you Help? And how do I contact the writer?

The other thing is that I will not be able to get to Memphis this year. Is Chicago worth the trip? Who will be there? Many of M2C2?

All the best Tom W,

PS,Anything interesting turned up?

Dear Tom,
We are certainly sorry to read that you cannot attend

Memphis this year. Sounds like you might have mixed up your priorities a little!

Chicago is a great show, but it is no Memphis. However, if you can come for Chicago, it raises the interesting possibility that you can then come to the fest. I guess that I would say that for military money guys, Memphis cannot hold a candle to the Chicago-Fest combination! We could certainly help you with the ground transportation part of the deal and I am sure that you would have a great time.

It is hard to say how many festers we will have this year. Last year there were 12. This year I expect between 4 and 2500!

If you come, you will probably get the long distance fest prize (last year the prize was a month without KP duty!).

I was the fellow with the RN beer chits. I will write to you about those.

Fred

Dear Fred,

Wow, what a great idea, World War II Remembered for Christmass for my wife. Now I want to find out if you are serious. If I take one for each of my former wives, my current wife, and a few of my girl friends, can I get a nice discount?

I liked Joe's coin shop story, but I want to know how much they wanted for the whole box?

Dr. T.

Dear Doc,

Well, we should be able to work something out, but I will have to put a limit on it, I would hate to run our of Remembered!

Fred

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MPC Series 481 50c, third printing, au, \$120, Ian Marshall, confirm at iam@total.net.

MPC Series 661 50c CU, \$20, David Seelye, coinman@rochester.rr.com.

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MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>

Date:

12/1/2000, 8:47 AM

To:

mpcgram@yahoo.com

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MPC Gram

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World of Military Numismatics

Covering the Entire

Series 002 - Number 182 Friday- 1 December 2000

More Propaganda

by Herb Friedman

I enjoyed Joe's story. The problem I usually have is walking into a dealer and asking if he has any propaganda, forgeries, or interesting counterfeits? Most dealers get very adversarial thinking I am questioning the genuiness of their stock. I always have to remind them that I have little interest in genuine notes but really want to see the odd stuff they have gathered.

A similar example occurred recently when the US government prepared propaganda banknotes offering a reward for the terrorist Bin Laden and disseminated them all over Pakistan and near the Afghanistan border. I wrote eight letters to Pakistanis asking them to keep an eye out for me. Not one reply!

I have also been searching for another piece of banknote propaganda prepared by our military in the form of a Bosnia note with text encouraging free trade in the area. I have yet to find that one.

One "new" item has turned up. If you are familiar with the book "Heil Beil" by Buchbinder you know that the

Germans produced a safe conduct pass in the form of a Russian 1 chervonets note (P-202). I wrote these up in IBNS Journal 25, Number 1 (1986).

The note is shown to be quite crisp in the book and has a green tinge. Since that time, at least two additional notes, almost identical, but on an aged brown paper, without the green tinge, with a different serial number have appeared. I would like to believe that these are just notes that have aged badly over 50-years and lost that trace of color, but there are so many fakes coming out of Russia today that there is cause to wonder.

Finally, the propaganda banknotes from Desert Storm continue to appear. I think most collectors know that there were 6 such notes prepared in Turkey and 4 more in Saudi Arabia. What has worried us is a smaller note that we were aware of, but appears nowhere in the official files of the 4th PSYOP Group. We are now reasonably sure that these smaller notes were CIA products used in the areas where we wanted the Shiites and the Kurds to rise against Saddam. We knew of two from a wartime reference, but since that time an additional three have appeared. Although we have no proof, since all the other series were prepared in even numbers, I suspect that six notes will eventually be found.

If someone asks, I will mention all the variations of the German leaflets that were produced showing American AMG for France.

[Herb, I will not be shy. We would love to have a list of the AMC propaganda item. Fred]

=====

Editorial

Marcus has been really busy with the scholarship fund. Be sure to read his update in the Departments section. We are making real inroads with the subscriber base. Yesterday we received a subscription from one of the old garud collectors who has steadfastly stayed away from email. Of course perhaps after filling his harddrive with grams he may throw the thing out the window!

=====

Mail Call

----- Dear Gram,

The dates of Mar 9-11 are not good since I will be at Salt Lake City for the ANA. I plan to spend the next week in Salt Lake doing genealogy. I am sure several others will be at that show.

George Fitz

PS My computer is down.

Hello Gramsters,

This is in reply to Larry's comments about the altered \$10 notes.

Their provenance is Italy- I wrote about them in my March 1996 Bank Note Reporter column and in fact it was my Note of the Month for that issue. I also had reason to include it in another BNR article, this time in the November 1999 issue, as I was reviewing and discussing IBNS President Guido Crapanzano's fine book "Soldi d'Italia."

Mine came from old-time West Coast collector-dealer Ralph A. "Curly" Mitchell years ago with an annotation about its being an Italian-made alteration.

Neil S.

=====

Departments

WWII numismatics seminar at ANA Summer Seminar 2001

Not only does the scholarship fund have an official identity but also has a bank account! Any further donations should be paid to the order of "Military Numismatists Scholarship" and sent to:

Military Numismatists
c/o Marcus Turner
8103 East US Highway 36
Suite 163
Avon, IN 46123

THE UPDATED LIST OF SCHOLARSHIP BENEFACTORS 11/22/00
Mike Cummings
Ed B.
Harold MPCKid Kroll
Bill McNese
Marcus Turner
Larry Ski
Fred
PK6
Joel Shaffer
World Wide Ventrues
John & Nancy Wilson
Neil Shaffer

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run here for free. Send your ads to the gram. The point is to make the gram more interesting. Send in a list of items for sale and we will list them here in the gram. In all cases confirm your order via email first.

Canada, chit book with one 5c chit, St. John, S Naval CDanteen, probable WWII era, \$85, Ian Marshall, confirm at iam@total.net.

MPC Series 692 5c CU, \$7.50, David Seelye, coinman@rochester.rr.com.

Books of interest to MPC collectors from BNRPress@papermoneyworld.com.

World War II Remembered, the classic book, necessary in every library. Price is only \$69 postpaid. If you will send your order via email and mention the gram, we will send the book with an invoice. Thanks.

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Subject:

MPC Gram 183

From:

MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>

Date:
12/2/2000, 4:42 PM
To:
mpcgram@yahoo.com

=====
MPC Gram
=====
World of Military Numismatics

Series 002 - Number 183 Saturday- 2 December 2000

Covering the Entire

Replacements are where you find them

Fred Schwan

I do not remember the second replacement that I obtained for my collection, but I do remember the last one- and the first one.

It is no surprise that it was a Series 611 5 ¢ piece since that is probably the most common of all replacements, but there is more to the story. In 1972 I was working on my regular issue MPC collection. I ordered a set of uncirculated Series 611 notes from a coin dealer whose name is long forgotten. The set arrived in due course and the notes were beautiful, stunning. I had probably never seen a \$5 or \$10 of the series at the time and I loved them. It was almost an afterthought to look at the fractionals, but they were beautiful too. The last one that I examined was the 5 ¢. I about fell over when I realized that it was a replacement!

Of course everyone loves to tell such stories- especially about the great finds. Here is a twist. In 1999 a friend wanted to purchase an original bundle of 100 notes that I had. After some difficult negotiations we came up with a trade. More than a year later through a mutual friend I found that the bundle had included a replacement note completely unnoticed by me! Ouch. Eventually, I talked to the buyer about it, he confessed and reported that it had taken him six months to discover the replacement!

At the 2000 Pcda St. Louis Paper Money Show, the same mutual friend mentioned above found a replacement in a group of regular issues in the inventory of an MPC specialist. He negotiated a unit price on the notes then pulled out the replacement. The seller was most chagrined, but honored the deal. Later my friend felt guilty for showing off and paid the dealer a substantial bonus for the note. It was still a good deal for the collector and I think that they both felt better.

A similar transaction took place at the 1997 CAA sale in Cincinnati where the great Series 591 \$5 replacement was sold. On the bourse floor a collector found a replacement in the inventory of an MPC dealer. It was not attributed as a replacement, but was priced. The collector handed it to the dealer stating that he would take it.

The dealer realized instantly what it was and what he had done. He shook his head and said, Ok, but no discount!

Another variation of this took place at the Detroit ANA convention in 1977(?). A very knowledgeable MPC dealer who was also very cantankerous stopped by to chat. Even though I knew that the chances of us working out a deal were slim I asked him what MPC he had for sale. He handed me a folder of notes. Essentially the notes were marked at 120% of the highest prices ever paid for MPC. This allowed the fellow to offer a generous 10% discount if you argued long enough.

Well, there was a really nice 50 ¢ replacement. It was a beautiful uncirculated piece and a condition rarity. I tossed it out and said, what do you want for this replacement?

He about fell over and replied, That's no replacement. Can you imagine that Fred Schwan does not know an MPC replacement? He continued to criticize me for about ten minutes.

Eventually, he let me get a word in. I apologized and simply asked what he wanted for the note. He quoted his 120% price for a regular issue (no discount offered). I put it in my case face down and complained about no discount and wrote a check.

=====
Editorial

Does your local library have copies of World War II Remembered and or Comprehensive Catalog of Military Payment Certificates? These books create collectors and should be in your public library.

Of course this is self centered on my part, but I am not very sorry about this because it is also for the mutual good!

Of course I might make a few dollars selling the books, but more important is the opportunity that they create in your community. Collectors who are created find new material, buy old material and in general are good for the hobby.

You may be surprised to know that local librarians

love to have suggestions from local partons of books that they should add to their collections. I have always thought that it was wonderful that libraries use the word collection to describe their books! You can call your library, write a letter, or stop in.

There is another possiblity too. You can donate a copy of these books to the library. If you do this, you can normally add a note to it giving your local phone number as a contact!

If we can help you in approaching your library, please let us know. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

=====

Mail Call

----- Dear Editor in MPChief-

Please request that the "Chitmaster," Larry S. address the following topic:

I have a number of club chit books of varying denominations (1.00, 2.00, 5.00).

What is the approximate circa of the books having different denominations?

Is there any difference in usage dates between Naval base chit books, Air Force base chit books, etc.of the same denomination? Are the usage dates of the same denomination consistent between

U. S. foreign operating bases and usage at U. S. domestic bases?

thanks,

TomK

p.s. Please ask Larry to stop outbidding me on these items :)

Buenos Dias Gramers,
Reluctantly, I've joined the "E-FORCE". What a great way to communicate - - sure beats the old smoke signals. Will attempt to contribute as items come my way. Adios!
R.A. Medina

=====

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Larry Ski
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French Equatorial Africa, 5,000 francs (SB 1187), specimen with margin notations, vf-ef, \$7500, Ian Marshall, confirm at iam@total.net.

MPC Series 681 \$5 CU, \$48, David Seelye, coinman@rochester.rr.com.

Books of interest to MPC collectors from BNRPress@papermoneyworld.com.

MPC Series 641 \$1, gem CU (SNJ05712329J), \$35. Confirm at fred@papermoneyworld.com. Thanks, Fred Schwan.

World War II Remembered, the classic book, necessary in every library. Price is only \$69 postpaid. If you will send your order via email and mention the gram, we will send the book with an invoice. Thanks.

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Subject:
MPC Gram 184
From:
MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>
Date:
12/3/2000, 11:36 AM
To:
mpcgram@yahoo.com

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MPC Gram

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World of Military Numismatics

Covering the Entire

Series 002 - Number 184 Sunday- 3 December 2000

More Replacements Are where You Find Them

by Gary Snover

In the late 70's or early 80's I went to orange county to view a garage full of banknotes was told part of Rutlader estate but never knew for sure.

I could not buy so many thousand of german bonds which I did not want but there was a brick of 1000 Philippine 1 peso Victory notes in the deal. The coin dealer that day had me come to his shop as he had some

mpc, I bought that lot 300-400 5c 611 and amongst them was a full pack of replacements + about 30 extra, 10c 200-300 pcs and nearly a full pack about 75-85 as I remember replacements. The 25c and 50c about 100 or so of each and no replacements.

=====

Editorial

Good news and bad news. It is always good news and bad news. I have not been able to use my scanner for many months. I tried just about everything to resolve the problem. Have been studying the computer catalogs thinking about a new one.

Yesterday I had an idea. I had not even tried to get it to work in months. I fired up the machine and within three minutes had the scanner working perfectly. You guys trust me to put out the gram? Anyway, the bad news is that now I have to find a new place for the mountain of papers that I have been filing on top of the scanner!

=====

Mail Call

Dear Grammer Herb F.

<< We would love to have a list of the AMC propaganda item. >>

Moi aussi.

Mr. Doric

Hi Fred,
About the altered \$10, I forgot to include its serial number in the story. Well, here it is: B27357294C, and the style of the numbers and letters is totally wrong. This characteristic I believe holds true for all of these pieces.

Neil S.

=====

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Harold MPCKid Kroll

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Chit booklet from Burma, American Embassy Recreation Associatin--Rangoon. \$5 booklet (cover) with one each 5, 10, and 25c chits, \$35, Ian Marshall, confirm at iam@total.net.

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MPC Gram 185
From:
MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>
Date:
12/4/2000, 8:25 PM
To:
mpcgram@yahoo.com

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MPC Gram

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World of Military Numismatics

Covering the Entire

Series 002 - Number 185 Monday- 4 December 2000

AMC Propaganda Leaflets

by Herb Friedman

When Fred and Joe wrote the first book, and later "Remembered," I would write Joe and tell him that he should have let me write the propaganda sections. I think Joe was afraid that I would drop my usual 7000 words about each propaganda note. He just wanted a brief comment. So, here goes...

Since you agree that you will not be bored, I shall tell you about the German propaganda leaflets picturing AMC.

There are eleven different varieties known showing notes for France and one for a note meant to be used in Italy.

In all cases the French "Emission en France" 5 francs AMG occupation note is Pick #50.

The most interesting are two that are actually the same size as the banknote, but are folded. When opened, there is propaganda text on the back. The banknote shown is serial number 12396971. The text titles are "Look at this note - who guarantees it?" and "The Anglo-Americans..."

The third leaflet is coded SW 28. It shows the AMG note with serial number 05703914. This leaflet was produced by the German propaganda organization Skorpion West. The text title is "Look at this note - who guarantees it?"

The fourth leaflet shows a note with serial number 12396971. The text asks "Why do they not pay with their dollars and their pounds?"

The fifth propaganda leaflet shows a note with serial number 34417411. The text starts "The Anglo-Americans..."

The sixth leaflet shows banknote #34417459. The text reads "Frenchmen! / Look at the cost of liberation..." This note is shown in "Remembered," page 283 according to my computer. I am not going to the bookcase to check, so you guys can look it up. There is a second variety of this leaflet except text is in small sans-serif font.

There are two leaflets showing banknote 34417465. The texts on them are "Look at this note..." and "The Anglo-American."

Finally, two leaflets show banknote 34417499 with the texts "This invasion note - who guarantees it?" and "The liberation is for the Anglo-Americans."

As you might expect, all of these German leaflets had the same theme.

The Allies are using a fraudulent useless currency in France that will have no value. Although not actually propaganda currency, I often show these leaflets when I exhibit the banknotes just to show the many ways that banknotes can be used in propaganda.

The Italian Socialist Republic (North Italy under Mussolini with German control) produced a propaganda leaflet showing a 10 lire AMG banknote (P-M19Aa) serial number A62000770A with a long text explaining

that the German Army had confiscated a quantity of the occupation marks. It went on to tell of the glory of the German and Italian military and asked the people to fight on. Produced by the Nucleo Propaganda in 1944.

Anybody care to hear about a propaganda banknote attacking the Russian occupation note for Hungary P-M8?

=====
Editorial

The Gram is late, the editorial is missing. The day was a crisis but a bonus for the local vet. Veterinarian that is.

Thank goodness for all of the wonderful contributions by fellow gramsters. This project is more and more turning into a true cooperative effort which is the very best part of it in my view!

=====
Mail Call

Dear Gram,

John had some questions about availability of Culion Leper Colony notes and coins and info from the Philippines. If you would like to send him my way, I will dig up the last comprehensive article I did for Coin World a few years ago and send him my mailbid list which has a good selection. I have handle all notes and varieties over the past 5 years.

Ray Czahor
Cookie Jar Collectibles
cjc-pi@home.com

Dear Ray,

I have had your mail bid sale here on my desk for several days waiting to do a review, but you have trumped me. The list includes lots and lots of very interesting WWII and other military items. I suggest that gramsters get a copy.

Fred

=====
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Subject:

MPC Gram 186

From:

MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>

Date:

12/5/2000, 7:55 AM

To:

mpcgram@yahoo.com

=====

MPC Gram

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World of Military Numismatics

Series 002 - Number 186 Tuesday- 5 December 2000

A Pleasant Saturday

by Doug Bell

I looked forward to the show in Dallas all week. I had

Covering the Entire

a little bit of information that there would be some MPC on the floor and that is enough to excite me even if not my wife. She was a good sport though and went along.

I arrived at about 10:30 and proceeded to scan the floor for any MPC that may be lurking in a dealers box. Halfway down the first of 3 isles in the overcrowded room I found my self squeezing through buyers of all sizes. After repeated attempts I finally arrived at a table with some very nice MPC notes.

I estimate about 30 which included 6 461 10\$ notes in ex-cu condition after determining that there were no replacements, block numbers for the number's collectors I am aquatinted with and a small visit with the dealer I proceeded down the isle to the last table where I was told I would find some MPC. Well there it was and the dealer knew what I was there for. That puzzled me for a bit till I remembered I was wearing my MPC fest shirt, its amazing what that tells dealers about you. I proceeded to fumble through about 80 MPC notes of all grades and series and asked what he would take for all.

He stepped back and said that he would add it up and that we would talk. An hour later we had a deal for the lot which included 2 replacements of great rarity along with 50 other notes for my block numbers set. While I was sorting the notes I had the pleasure of talking to an individual who was collecting MPC and asked me if I received the MPC gram. To say the least I responded with a yes and invited him to MPC fest 2. I'm sorry but I didn't get his email address but would like to stay in contact if he would email me. [doug@papermoneyworld.com] Over all I fill I had a great show. I came home and watched OU kick KS 27-24

Exhibiting World Paper Money

by Joe Boling

This is a minor revision of an article written ten years ago about exhibiting world paper money; it was originally published in The Numismatist, November 1990. Welcome to Class 9 of the ANA's exhibiting categories-- Foreign Paper Money. This class covers non-U.S. (world) paper money that is not included in the more narrowly defined classes, such as Canada and Latin America. World paper money exists in almost unlimited types. While we often speak of "banknote collecting" as a generic segment of numismatics, notes actually issued by banks are only a small portion of paper money emissions. If you are already collecting such material and are thinking of exhibiting it, you need to choose an exhibiting approach. Examining the ways

that paper money can be classified could help in that determination. Consider the following ways to classify notes:

issuing authority - nation, state, district, municipality, warlord, bank, company, plantation, camp; monetary base - bullion, coined bullion, land, commodities, labor, bonds, other paper money, fiat; design - designer, engraver, style, subject; production - printer, printing technology, fabric

(paper, cloth, or plastic), security features, marks for the blind, overprints, specimens, replacement notes; special purposes or circumstances - inflation, economic recovery, natural disaster, occupation, military canteen, POW or DP camp, guerrilla, propaganda, liberation, lazaretto, commercial or political advertising, commemoration; and many more. You can see that there is almost no

end to the ways that paper money can be linked to the world around us. In fact, you may have more trouble keeping your focus on a manageable piece of

the paper money spectrum than in finding a subject to explore. Where does one obtain material for Class 9

exhibits? While world paper money is still not a "mainstream" part of numismatics in the USA, the number of dealers who handle it, and even the number who handle it exclusively, has increased greatly within the thirty years that I have been searching for it. In addition to coin shops and shows, consider militaria shows and flea markets, because world paper money is frequently found among personal memorabilia, especially of ex-soldiers. You have to be familiar with the material you want to buy when you go to such non-numismatic outlets; pricing tends to be more "seat-of-the-pants" there. You may be fortunate enough to find some genuine bargains in such cases, especially of varieties.

Another source that did not exist when this article was written is on-line auctions. We have all heard of the sleepers that have been picked up for a song on the internet. Again, you have to know what you are looking for and what a fair price should be. What makes a successful exhibit in Class 9? The

key to this class is the general attractiveness of most paper money. Yes, if you are showing British white fivers they can get boring in a hurry, but most world paper money is colorful, artistic, and frequently considerably larger than the US notes that your viewers are familiar with. Some notes are strikingly beautiful, and will attract a viewer from across a room because of their eye appeal. Capitalize on that aspect of your material. An added feature of exhibiting in this class is that seven cases are authorized for paper money, so don't let the cases look cluttered. (If you are showing at an ANA spring show, you can use fifteen cases!) Even if you have quite a few varieties to show, judicious use of partial photographs or photocopies and setting off the notes with attractively prepared spacers (card backgrounds, ribbon, or even empty space) will make it easier to

relate the text of the exhibit to the specimens. Both basic and special numismatic information are important in Class 9. If your theme is a numismatic bywater, you will have to include all of the information that you want or expect the public and the judges to know, which may restrict your treatment of details so that the basics can be presented. If the exhibit covers a topic with a more well-known body of knowledge, you can depend on parts of the audience and all of the judges to have that knowledge (or have access to it at the convention). Again, if your theme is unusual or very narrow, you may have difficulty finding certain notes that you want for your exhibit. Since completeness can earn up to 5 points, in a close call it may be desirable to modify the theme so that it fits what you have been able to collect. This is a frequently-used exhibitor tactic. Rarity and condition in paper money are judged the same as for coins and medals, but a "doggy" note is even more conspicuous than a merely "good" coin - there is a lot more exhibit space occupied by dirt and wear. The visual advantages offered by notes are lost if the notes are low-grade, so make special efforts to show the highest-grade pieces possible.

But, there is a "dark side" to showing pristine notes. There are two significant risks for paper money exhibitors. The high-intensity arc-lights used in many exhibit halls are hazardous to notes. Subtle colors, especially non-intaglio underprints, will fade when exposed to such light. In a one- or two-day convention that is not a problem, but an exhibit may be in place for six full days at an ANA show. You will have to make your own decision about what level of risk or damage you are willing to tolerate. Be especially wary of showing notes overlapped by labels, arrows, or other notes, because when those items are removed at the end of the show you may find an drop-out shadow left behind. One way to decrease this risk is to bring extra table covers to the show; put them over the exhibit during non-viewing hours. Although lights are frequently dimmed at night, there are still many hours of dealer-only and judge-only full illumination during the convention when you would like to have your exhibit protected. Of course, you must be responsible for placing and removing such covers yourself; you cannot expect the exhibit chairman's staff to do it for you.

Another potential hazard to showing top grade notes is the damage that can occur if the exhibit case glass is broken and falls on them. Some exhibitors place the notes in acetate or Mylar holders to help protect against this risk. Judges are instructed to not penalize for the use of holders, but attractiveness still counts, so if your holders are dirty, scratched, or label-festooned, don't expect to get all the points available for attractiveness. Again, the protective measures you take are your own decision, weighing the potential for a lower exhibit

score against the potential for damage to your notes. downbeat, remember that there are many satisfactions in exhibiting, even if you do not receive the top awards. First, you learn a lot about your notes by exhibiting them; just as a teacher must first be an expert in the material to be taught, so an exhibitor must study to learn the information that is presented in the exhibit. This makes you a better numismatist. Second, you obtain recognition as an expert in your field, which brings with it offers of more material to collect, or at least more information about what you have already collected. Interested viewers will search you out to share their information and experiences about your material. Finally, there is a tremendous camaraderie among exhibitors that transcends individual conventions and adds substantially to your enjoyment of numismatics as a hobby. Join us with your paper money exhibit; you will find any number of people willing to discuss proven techniques for building great presentations and to help you benefit from the advantages I have named.

Not to end on a

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Editorial

I spoke yesterday about what a great team effort the gram has become. After saying that I got to thinking that I have hogged this editorial space. True, the difference between a gram article, letter to the editor and editorial is sometimes small. Also, I must reserve the right to alter submissions to fit requirements and place them as an article or letter as required. However, until now, I have not published any of these submissions as an editorial. I think that I will not do this unsolicited, but by the same token, we solicit your guest editorial!

=====
Mail Call

----- Dear Editor,
I enjoy reading this newsletter.
Herb F.

Dear Grammeister,

Just as the series on short snorters started, I bought one for my collection. Then a coworker mentioned that he had one from his father's WWII experience. He said that I was the first person he had ever met who knew what a short snorter was.

Needless to say, I enjoyed the series.

Joe U.

=====
Departments

WWII numismatics seminar at ANA Summer Seminar 2001

Not only does the scholarship fund have an official
identity but also has a bank account! Any further
donations should be paid to the order of "Military
Numismatists Scholarship" and sent to:

Military Numismatists
c/o Marcus Turner
8103 East US Highway 36
Suite 163
Avon, IN 46123

THE UPDATED LIST OF SCHOLARSHIP BENEFACTORS 11/22/00
Mike Cummings
Ed B.
Harold MPCKid Kroll
Bill McNese
Marcus Turner
Larry Ski
Fred
PK6
Joel Shafer
World Wide Ventrues
John & Nancy Wilson
Neil Shafer

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MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>
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12/6/2000, 8:15 AM
To:
mpcgram@yahoo.com

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MPC Gram
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World of Military Numismatics

Covering the Entire

Series 002 - Number 187 Wednesday- 6 December 2000

Romanian Potporri

by Mircea Raicopol

I am a Romanian collector, member of I.B.N.S. # 7174.
I found your E-mail address in the IBNS JOURNAL no. 3
/ 2000.

I would like to inform you that through the kind agency of Mr. Colin BRUCE II, I have your exceptional book "WW II - REMEMBERED". It is very, very interesting. Concerning Romania's chapter, I want to draw to your attention the subject of the involvement of my country in WW II. It was important, having three distinct phases as : Neutral (September 1, 1939 - June 21 1941), Axis (June 22, 1941 - August 22, 1944) and Allied (August 23, 1944 - May 9, 1945). If you intent to prepare the second edition of it, please note that I am ready to support your endeavour. I can set up the historical presentations, description of the military orders, medals and decorations, military postcards, banknotes, Red Cross stamps, POW stamps, photos, etc& Also, please note that Mr. BRUCE has some Romanian military bonds and other pieces of this period.

I revert now, again on WW II - REMEMBERED . Concerning your demand for the assistance about the determination of the origin of the piece indicate in bottom of the 783 page, please note the followings: The piece is a scrip coupon issued by the Town Hall of Odessa city, under Romanian Administration (October 16, 1941 - March 17, 1944).

The textual translation of the bilingual (Romanian / Russian) mention is :
FRONT :

The TOWN - HALL of the Municipality of ODESSA
The MANAGER'S OFFICE of the SUPPLY STORE
B I L L
FOR the RECEIVERSHIP of the BREAD ACCORDING to COUPON

from the BAKERY of the MUNICIPALITY
Valid only to the bakery Nr. (number)

I remain at your disposal for any more specific information concerning our area.

=====

Editorial

Well, I continue with a little bit of Gram editorial philosophy. As you know, we have two regular columnists, Joe Boling on Tuesdays and Larry Smulczenski (Ski) on Thursdays. Both of these columns are being very warmly received.

We have room for more columns and would like to have yours! These two fellows by viture of their age (I respect MY elders) write about the old days and most ahthing that strikes their fancy (and we love it). There is room for other types of columns. These could take many diffent thrusts. They could zoom in on a subject area like POW or concentration camp material or take different approaches including info for beginners by a vet or a beginner. There are many other

possibilities. We would love to start your column this week!

=====

Mail Call

----- Nice articles by both
the contributors this edition
[Tue, 186]! Am so pleased that I was added to the
mpcgram network. Hope to see all the contributors here
in Memphis this June, our 25 th anniversary show!
Thanks to all of U for supporting our show and
allowing us to have one of the great venues for
collectors and dealers too.

Bob Raby
IMPS - Chairman Registration and Security

Dear Bob,

We are indeed flattered to have your interest and
participation in the gram. The Meimphis show and
Memphis Coin club have been instrumental in the growth
and prosperity of the paper money hobby.

I am proud to have been at Memphis I and 21 of the 24
thus far (having had medical emergencies or overseas
service interrupt a perfect string). The show is a
always an important event for military money
collectors. The first meeting of the Military
Collectors Club was a Memphis and the number of
historical happeneing there relating just to MPC and
military money are to numerous to mention.

Please send any show newsreleases to the gram. We will
not only be pleased to publish them, but I think that
we can claim to have the fastest distribution of any
numismatic periodical!

Thank you again for writing, I am pleased and hunbled
to call you, Mike Crabb, and others from the Memphic
Coin Club, friend.

Fred

=====

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MPC Series 661 \$5 CU, \$30, David Seelye, coinman@rochester.rr.com.

Books of interest to MPC collectors from
BNRPress@papermoneyworld.com.

MPC Series 461 \$135, very strong EF, most would call AU I belive, \$95. Confirm at fred@papermoneyworld.com. Thanks, Fred Schwan.

World War II Remembered, the classic book, necessary in every library. Price is only \$69 postpaid. If you will send your order via email and mention the gram, we will send the book with an invoice. Thanks.

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12/7/2000, 12:42 AM

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mpcgram@yahoo.com

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World of Military Numismatics

Covering the Entire

Series 002 - Number 188 Thurski - 7 December 2000

Remember Pearl Harbor

by Larry "Ski" Smulczenski

Today marks the 59th anniversary of the day that
President Franklin D. Roosevelt said was a date that

would live in infamy. The Japanese launched a surprise attack targeting Pearl Harbor on Sunday morning as much of Hawaii slept. Eight battleships were moored along Battleship Row plus five cruisers and 26 destroyers which were also in the harbor. Fortunately, the three aircraft carriers along with seven other cruisers were not there, having departed on maneuvers. The eight battleships, three cruisers, three destroyers and four auxiliary vessels were either sunk, capsized, or badly damaged-- eighteen ships in all. Ninety naval aircraft were destroyed while the army lost seventy-seven more with another 128 damaged. Twenty-four hundred and three Americans were killed or missing while another 1,178 were wounded. In contrast, the Japanese losses were minimal--29 airplanes, 1 large submarine and five midgets. This was truly a historic loss for the Americans as our Pacific Fleet lay in ruins, but it gave rise to a battle cry that would ring countless times during World War II--- REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR.

Hawaii gave us World War II numismatists a number of items to collect. Foremost are the bold-faced HAWAII overprinted Silver Certificates and Federal Reserve Notes. These notes can form a very interesting and challenging collection. Additionally, dozens of chits and tokens were issued by the large number of military installations that occupied many square miles of Hawaiian country side. Ration items unique to Hawaii also are of interest to many of us.

A Hawaiian item that holds a cherished spot in my collection is a \$25 United States War Savings Bond. The bond was issued to a young lady of Chinese ancestry, a Miss Chin Soon Chun. Miss Chun resided in the city of Kapaa on Kauai, the Hawaiian island just to the northwest of the main island of Oahu where Pearl Harbor is located. At that time, Hawaii was not yet a state, so her address ends with T.H. (Territory of Hawaii). The bond was issued by the Bank of Hawaii, Lihue Branch on Dec. 7, 1942, the first anniversary of Pearl Harbor. Lihue is about 7 or 8 miles south and down the east coast from Miss Chun's hometown of Kapaa. The beautiful part of this bond is that issue date of Dec 7, 1942 which resulted in a handstamp being imprinted in purple ink on the bond. The First War Bond Drive was conducted at this time and this bond could have been purchased as part of a campaign quota. The imprint is light, but reads "Remember Pearl Harbor" on a streamer above a large "7" on the back of an eagle with its wings spread surrounded by "DEC" on the left side and "1942" on the right side. There is a little "the" and "th" around the 7 which results in "DEC the 7th 1942"--the first anniversary of Pearl Harbor and the start of World War II.

So 58 years after it's issue, you can see this bond by clicking on the link www.papermoneyworld.com/mpcgram/thurski3.jpg

Collecor's Surveys at papermoneyworld.com

ABC, NBC, CNN, RNC, DNC polsters move over. Paper money collectors now have their own polster! Doug "Wiz" Bell has established a poll for collectors at papermoneyworld.com. Each question is posted for two weeks. Collectors can post their opinion and leave comments too. The first question concerns MPC Series 691 and 701. Collectors are invited and encouraaged to visit papermoneyworld.com and give their opinion.

The question will be changed at least every two weeks with the possibility of added more questions. Results will be posted at paeprmoneyworld.com and at least mentined here in the gram.

Finally, collectors everywhere are invited to submitt questions for posting at pmw. Questions may be sent to the gram. Heck, they can do double duty by being publihed in the gram then posted at pmw for polling.

=====

Editorial

Remember Pearl Harbor! There is no need to tell this group, I know. December 7 is the first historic date that I ever learned and best of all I did not have to learn it. That momentous date was just part of the vocabulary when I was growing up. I think that in large part it was that sort of understood importance that drew me to the numismatic specialty that became my life.

Of course there are lots of wonderful numismatic relics of Pearl Harbor and the war in Hawaii. Most important of all there are still many to be discovered.

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Mail Call

----- Hi Fred:

As previously mentioned I've printed out many of the grams for future reference. I use the back/unprinted side of other unimportant or no longer needed items. What troubles me is that a line of text in the Gram doesn't cover the full width of the page. I understand that this makes it easier to read, especially for folks that have short attention spans. However when it comes to printing out, much paper is wasted by a full column of white space along the right side of the sheets. Any thoughts?

Mr. Doric

=====

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MPC Series 661 \$5 CU, \$30, David Seelye, coinman@rochester.rr.com.

Books of interest to MPC collectors from BNRPress@papermoneyworld.com.

Boy did I bungle the advertisement yesterday. Here is it correctly (I hope). MPC Series 461 \$5 beautiful EF that most would call AU, \$110. Confirm at fred@papermoneyworld.com. Thanks, Fred Schwan.

World War II Remembered, the classic book, necessary in

every library. Price is only \$69 postpaid. If you will
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12/8/2000, 7:28 PM

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MPC Gram

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World of Military Numismatics

Series 002 - Number 189 Friday - 8 December 2000

Covering the Entire

MPC Book Coming in Fourth Edition, Draft Newsrelease

Fred Schwan and BNR Press have announced plans for the publication of the fourth edition of Schwan's award winning standard reference the Comprehensive Catalog of Military Payment Certificates.

Schwan says that the new edition is necessary because of the explosion of new material that has been uncovered since the third edition and an explosive market in MPC.

In a stunning development, series 691 and 701 were released for collectors in 2000. The designs for these series were initially revealed in the second edition of the MPC book, but the availability of notes for collectors radically changes the treatment that they can be given in the catalog. New discoveries about these issues are included in the book.

The book has always been innovative and Schwan has promised that this new edition will be no exception with new features. He hopes to have new information or revisions on every page.

Collectors now know that several series of MPC were manufactured in multiple printings. Some of these printings are identifiable visually, but they are all identifiable by serial number. Collectors are vigorously pursuing these notes and they are fully documented in the new book including important new discoveries that have never been published. Check lists, summaries, and charts that have been key features of the previous editions have been revised and expanded and are expected to be very popular with collectors.

For more than 25 years Schwan has been surveying the MPC replacements that are known in collections. The most detailed reports of this survey have been published in this catalog and this tradition is continued. The survey has expanded rapidly since the previous edition of the catalog with approximately 400 new serial numbers included bringing the total to over 2400. Most important among these are two new types that were not known at all at the time of publication of the previous edition.

Complete data is included on all of the notes (by individual serial number) and new ways of analysis are included for the first time. Furthermore, many of the series had multiple printings that have not yet been documented and of course are covered here.

Many small discoveries are documented throughout the

text. The first ever solid serial number MPC (J11111111J) is discussed and illustrated for the first time as are other special and fancy serial numbers. Error MPC have always been prominently featured and this section is being expanded. The first edition of the catalog was published in 1987. At that time it was simply titled Military Payment Certificates. The second edition was published in 1992 and the third edition under the current title was published in 1995. Schwan has received numerous awards for the book including the prestigious Numismatic Literary Guild book of the year award in 1995.

The MPC collector community has also expanded radically in the past few years which has contributed to a scorching market in MPC which is of course sufficient reason to revise the catalog. It may seem that the priced catalog section would be routine, but even it includes innovation with the introduction of more grades, more varieties, and more illustrations, in a greatly expanded section.

The expanded market has been fueled by the Internet and electronic auctions with record prices, but the market has expanded in many additional ways including record prices at traditional floor auctions. In 1999 MPC collectors held their first show known as MPC Fest. They have a free printed occasional newsletter and a daily email newsletter (subscribe at MPCGram@yahoo.com) and daily MPC chat at www.papermoneyworld.com. All of these developments are covered and or promoted in the book.

More innovative features are being developed that are still tentative. Details will be released at a later date. The book is scheduled for release at MPC Fest II in March 2001. Inquiries may be sent to BNRPress@papermoneyworld.com.

=====
Editorial

As you have seen, we are hard at work on a new edition of the MPC book. The lead news story is a draft news release concerning the new book. You have read about it first here in the gram.

Many of you knew that I was working on a special book on MPC replacements. I was excited about this book and had it virtually finished when I decided that just too much had happened in MPC in general and that we could not delay the general book for the replacement book. The good news is that most of the features for the replacement book have simply been moved into this book so you are getting two for one so to speak. It is possible that we will still have a special replacement book in the next few years.

I really need your help to make this the best book that we can. Such books are always the result of cooperation of the entire community of collectors, but

in this case, I believe that we can take this to new levels. I need to know what you want or at least what you would like to have. It is not too late to make large additions or major revisions.

I have some ideas for features that will require your cooperation and participation. These are just my ideas, I expect that you will have better ideas. We need to share and discuss these ideas here in the Gram.

=====

Mail Call

----- Hi Fred,
It's a good bet that there will be many Gramsters in attendance at CPMX that goes from March 1-4 in Chicago. How about having an informal gathering of the clan some evening, just to chat in person and be together awhile? You'd probably have to get hold of Kevin Foley if you want it announced or in the program somehow, otherwise it can just be by word of mouth. Something to think about.
Neil S.

Dear Grammeister,
The calendar of shows and events is still missing from the gram! I am completely unable to plan my life without it! Help!

Marcus Turner

Dear Gram,

I've just read the reminder of Pearl Harbour by Larry Ski. Typical of many I find my interest in Military Money leads me up quite a few other avenues. One postscript to history I became aware of a couple of years ago. In December 1941 the Allied military at Singapore was aware of Jap Naval activity to the north. Based at Singapore was RAF Squadron 205 a Coastal Command unit equipped with Catalinas (PBYS to you). On the evening of 6th December an aircraft was despatched under sealed orders to find and shadow the Jap fleet. It was shot down by Jap Naval aircraft. Allowing for the time differential this was well before the attack on Pearl Harbour and was the opening of hostilities - pity the news did not travel fast enough! Unfortunately I do not have any reference books to hand. The most readable book is a double volume called "Bloody Shambles" the authors I forget. A new book which contains a lot of information about 205 Squadron is in process of print called "So Long Singapore" by Hugh Cambell, an Australian, of which I have read a proof. The story of ES Asia during December 1941 through March 1942 is awesome.
Tom W.

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World of Military Numismatics

Series 002 - Number 190 Saturday- 9 December 2000

Covering the Entire

More Romanian Potporri

by Mircea Raicopol

At the beginning of the WW II in September 1939, Romania proclaimed its neutrality. After the defeat of France, and further to the secret protocol of the Soviet-Nazi agreement of August 1939 (known as the Molotov - Ribbentrop Pact) the Red Army occupied Bessarabia and northern Bukovina (June 1940). Later, the northern Transylvania was annexed by Hungary (August 1940) and southern Dobruja was returned to Bulgaria (September 1940). A popular outrage over the recent territorial losses by kingdom determined the abdication of Carol II in favor of his son Michael I on September 6, 1940 (see the date overprinted on # 55).

The government was reorganized along Fascist lines on September 14, 1940, following a long series of the illegalities. Thus, Nicolae Iorga (see the portrait on #105 & 108), one of the most distinguished scientist, Prime - Minister in 1931 / 32, was assassinated. After a bloody rebellion of the Fascist movement (January 21 - 23, 1941), which has been repressed by the army, a military dictatorship has followed. Marshal Ion Antonescu has installed himself as chief of state. On the June 22, 1941, Romania declared war on USSR for recovering the Bessarabia and northern Bukovina annexed by Stalin in 1940. The territories were liberated, but the Romanian army has continued the campaign entering on the Ukrainian and Russian steppes, firstly in the area of eastern Nistru River, so-called Transnistria. Following the German-Romanian discussions (August 1941), the Romanian government refused the annexation of this zone, but it has assumed responsibility for the protection, administration and economic exploitation of the area between Nistru and Bug Rivers with Odessa port as administrative center (for previously listed # M17 - M22 see TRANSDNIESTRA chapter). After military occupation (October 1941), a skeletal civil executive apparatus was installed in November, being effective beginning with spring of 1942. Romanian troops fought alongside the Germans up to

Stalingrad and Caucasus. The defeat at Stalingrad (February 1943) gave new impetus to Romanian efforts to leave the war. In February 1944, the Romanian administration of Transnistria was repatriated and later the Soviet army re-conquered the territory. Bessarabia and northern Bukovina were again annexed at USSR. The southern Bessarabia and northern Bukovina were incorporated at Ukraine SSR (today Ukraine). The rest of Bessarabia, including a strip extending east of the Nistru River (Transnistria) became Moldavian SSR.

On August 23, 1944, Marshal Antonescu has been arrested following a Royal coup. King Michael I (1927 - 1930; 1940 - 1947) (see the portrait on # 76 & 78) proclaimed the armistice with the Allied Forces. On August 24, the German troops encroached the non-belligerency covenant and have attacked the capital. Between, August 24 and 31 the Romanians drove out the Germans from Bucharest, south and southwest of the territory. The Soviet army entered in the capital on August 30/31, 1944.

Momentary, the Soviet political direct intervention was adjourned (see the notes # M10 2 - M16 which not circulated). The Romanian army liberated North Transylvania, continuing the campaign in Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and Austria until the end of WW II in Europe on May 9, 1945. However, the Red Army subsequently occupied the country. It was imposed the presence of the Communists in government and the parliamentary elections were falsified in 1946. The monarchy was abolished on December 30, 1947 and King Michael I forced into exile. Romania became a People's Republic

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Editorial
=====

Yesterday we spoke about cooperation on the new MPC book and already collectors have been volunteering. This is great, wonderful, and as it should be.

I would like to think of a way to get as many people as possible involved in the project in a real and meaningful way. Here is one idea that I have.

We can make room in the book for contributions by just about any and all MPC collectors. We would love to have reports of indepth research and unpublished information, but it is not likely that everyone can provide that. However, most everyone can provide something. A tale of that great fine, the one that got away, or the pursuit of that elusive item. Stories about how you got started in MPC or the first time that you saw a piece of MPC, or heard of it.

Possibly we can just call it a letters to the editor section. Unusual for a book, true. Heck, that attracts me even more! A few stories about me will be ok, but more than one "congratulations on a new book" letter would not be desirable. Humor, insight, and pith would probably be at a premium.

Is this a good idea? Am I crazy (of course). Well, you need to let us know.

=====

Mail Call

----- Nice articles by both the contributors this edition [Tue, 186]! Am so pleased that I was added to the mpcgram network. Hope to see all the contributors here in Memphis this June, our 25th anniversary show! Thanks to all of U for supporting our show and allowing us to have one of the great venues for collectors and dealers too.

Bob Raby
IMPS - Chairman Registration and Security

Dear Bob,

We are indeed flattered to have your interest and participation in the gram. The Meimphis show and Memphis Coin club have been instrumental in the growth and prosperity of the paper money hobby.

I am proud to have been at Memphis I and 21 of the 24 thus far (having had medical emergencies or overseas service interrupt a perfect string). The show is a always an important event for military money collectors. The first meeting of the Military Collectors Club was a Memphis and the number of historical happeneing there relating just to MPC and military money are to numerous to mention.

Please send any show newsreleases to the gram. We will not only be pleased to publish them, but I think that we can claim to have the fastest distribution of any numismatic periodical!

Thank you again for writing, I am pleased and hunbled to call you, Mike Crabb, and others from the Memphic Coin Club, friend.

Fred

if mr. doric does not like wasting space on his sheets of previously-used paper, i would suggest he learn how to re-format the text before he prints it out. as everyone's email program/printer/printing software/font settings are gernerally different, there really is no way to set the gram up in such a way that it will print out full-width columns on everyone's paper.

marianne ades

Dear Gram!

Pearl Harbor was remembered... On August 6 (and 9th) 1945...

We have awakened a sleeping giant...and filled him with a terrible resolve.

Yamamoto

PG

Good thing the press release on the MPC book is still a draft--Mr. Schwan did not win the NLG book of the year award in 1995 for the MPC book, but for WWII Remembered. If he has won any awards for the MPC book in its various editions, it was not in 1995.

An interested commentator

Dear commentator,
OK, OK, it was not 95, it must have been 1998 after the 1997 edition. Thanks for the catch.

Fred

=====

Departments

WWII numismatics seminar at ANA Summer Seminar 2001

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PK6

Joel Shafer

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MPC Fest II

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Chit booklet from Burma, American Embassy Recreation Associatin--Rangoon. \$5 booklet (cover) with one each 5, 10, and 25c chits, \$35, Ian Marshall, confirm at iam@total.net.

MPC Series 661 \$5 CU, \$30, David Seelye, coinman@rochester.rr.com.

Books of interest to MPC collectors from BNRPress@papermoneyworld.com.

MPC Series 461 \$5, very strong EF, most would call AU I believe \$135. Confirm at fred@papermoneyworld.com. Thanks, Fred Schwan.

World War II Remembered, the classic book, necessary in every library. Price is only \$69 postpaid. If you will send your order via email and mention the gram, we will send the book with an invoice. Thanks.

=====

Staff: publisher and editor:

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webmaster & technical advisor: Doug Bell - (Wiz): doug@papermoneyworld.com;

The Boss: Judy Schwan

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World of Military Numismatics

Covering the Entire

Series 002 - Number 191 Sunday- 10 December 2000

Proposal to Create MPC

by Fred Vinson, Secretary of the Treasury with
comments by Fred Schwan

Below is the text of the letter from the Secretary
Vinson to the secretary of war proposing the creation
of MPC. This document was in Bureau archives. While it
does not include a great deal of information not known
to MPC collectors, it is a very historical letter from
our point of view.

February 18, 1946

My dear Mr. Secretary:

The Treasury understands from General Richards letter
of November 19, 1945 that on November 19, 1945, the
European Theater adopted administrative regulations

which provide that American soldiers and persons attached to the Armed Forces will be permitted to exchange, transfer, or deposit foreign currency for dollars or for other foreign currencies only to the extent of three months' pay and allowances, less conversions made during that three months plus current accruals from pay and allowances or the sale of dollar instruments to finance officers. To accomplish this end the regulation provides for the maintenance of a record of the remittances and exchanges of each individual so that the amount transferred or exchanged will not exceed the amounts paid to the individual as salary or for dollar instruments cashed. It is understood also that similar regulations are being recommended for serious consideration in the Pacific Area.

For many months the Treasury Department, in formal and informal conversations, has been attempting with the greatest seriousness to induce the War Department to adopt measures which will prevent the conversion into dollars of foreign currencies acquired illegally or through unauthorized channels. These attempts by the Treasury Department have not met with success. Our letter of October 17, 1945 was sent after many discussions with the War Department officials and although the War Department has taken the above measures to meet these problems these steps are not fully effective, and not adequate to cope with the problem. There has been no serious attempt by the War Department to investigate Cases of army personnel who acquired personal fortunes during the course of the military operations, although the suggestion that such investigation be carried out was made informally to officials of the War Department over the past year, finally, in our letter of November 9, 1945. We are not even currently informed of the situation at any given time since the War Department has not or cannot obtain through its ordinary procedures significant statistics as to the amounts involved in its foreign exchange operations.

This situation is considered to be one of greatest gravity. The inability of the United States Army to prevent the conversion into dollars of foreign currencies acquired by personnel through unauthorized channels, and the unwillingness of the War Department to impose effective controls which the Treasury has in the past suggested, has resulted in a serious worsening of the situation and the Treasury now feels it necessary to propose a more drastic measure, which would render unnecessary and thus eliminate the Army's conversion system. Under this measure all conversions of foreign currencies into dollars would cease with no exceptions whatever. Personnel would be advised in advance that local currencies would not be converted through Army facilities. The Treasury considers that

such a change of policy has now become essential if the operations of the War Department in foreign currencies are not to end in serious financial loss to the United States Government

The proposed method of regulation would be one which would be more liberal in its application and which would at the same time protect the dollar reserves. This method which is a development of the suggestion made in my letter of October 17, 1945, has been discussed with the Office of the Budget Officer of your Department, and takes into account administrative considerations mentioned in General Richards' letter.

Under the method of control now being considered, soldiers as well as other authorized personnel would be allowed to draw any portion of their pay either in local currency or in a new bearer instrument, denominated in dollars, which may tentatively be referred to as Military Payment Certificates. The portion drawn in local currency, as well as local currency otherwise acquired, would not be convertible into dollars through Army facilities, and all personnel would be kept informed of this non-convertible status of their personal holdings of foreign currencies. That portion of pay drawn in Military Payment Certificates, as well as Military Payment Certificates otherwise acquired, however, would be freely exchanged by Army finance officers, into dollar instruments for remittance to the United States. It is expected that official facilities would be established for the sale (but not purchase) of the local foreign currency in return for surrender of Military Payment Certificates by authorized personnel. Such personnel would be warned at the time of such sale that no finance officer would repurchase or accept any foreign currency at any time for any purpose.

It is proposed Military Payment Certificates would be used exclusively for all expenditures of the troops in military channels, such certificates, however, would not be legal tender in the local economy and would be negotiable only by United States troops or other authorized personnel. The Certificates alone would be acceptable at the Army Post Offices, post exchanges, army messes and other quartermaster's stores. Military Payment Certificates would also be negotiable by soldiers and other authorized personnel among themselves; hence, a soldier's accumulation of such instruments from transactions with other United States military personnel could be freely transferred to the United States.

It should be noted that the above suggested regulation could be universally applied in all theaters of operations, thereby facilitating the transfer of funds between theaters. Thus a soldier who has drawn his pay

in Military Payment Certificates in Germany would have an instrument that would be valid' in e~ theater.

The proposed Military Payment Certificate would be issued in appropriate fixed denominations and would be payable to any authorized bearer. As the Certificates are worn out they would be replaced by new issues, appropriate accounting entries being made in the disbursing officers' books. A suggestion form is enclosed herewith.

The Treasury is prepared to establish a special deposit account in the name of the Secretary of War, to be carried on the books of the Treasurer of the United States. When a quantity of these Certificates is delivered to a disbursing officer, the War Department will certify to the Treasury the dollar equivalent and authorize the transfer of that amount in dollars from the disbursing officer's checking account on the Treasurer's books to the special deposit account of the Secretary of War. When Certificates are redeemed, a similar procedure will be followed, except that the transfer will be made from the special deposit account of the Secretary of War to the account of the disbursing officer making the redemption. Since the War Department will have full jurisdiction and control of the Certificates, the Treasury will, of course, have no responsibility as to their issue, circulation, redemption, destruction, or other disposition.

The above proposal is offered for your serious consideration. I assure you that Treasury is most anxious to cooperate with the War Department in the endeavors which it is making to preserve its dollar funds for legitimate conversions. If you believe that the system proposed herein is feasible, it is suggested that appropriate discussions be held with the General Accounting Office as soon as possible to obtain the Comptroller General's determination that there is no objection insofar as the accounting requirements of his office are concerned.

Very truly yours, /s/ Fred M. Vinson
Fred M. Vinson
Secretary of the Treasury

Enclosure.

cc: Messrs. Dietrich, Brooks, Maxwell, Barrtelt, Hall, Slindee, Brennan

[Hall was the director of the BEP from whose records this copy was taken (copied), identity of the other persons would be interesting.]

=====
Editorial

It is exciting to present the letter from Secretary
Visnon above. This is the first installment of several
that will appear here in the gram before appearing in
the MPC book. As always your comments are welcome.
=====

Mail Call

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point is to make the gram more interesting. Send in a list of items for sale
and we will list them here in
the gram. In all cases confirm your order via email
first.

Chit booklet from Burma, American Embassy Recreation
Associatin--Rangoon. \$5 booklet (cover) with one each
5, 10, and 25c chits, \$35, Ian Marshall, confirm at

iam@total.net.

MPC Series 521 5c CU, \$28, David Seelye,
coinman@rochester.rr.com.

Books of interest to MPC collectors from
BNRPress@papermoneyworld.com.

MPC Series 461 \$5, very strong EF, most would call AU
I believe \$135. Confirm at fred@papermoneyworld.com.
Thanks, Fred Schwan.

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World of Military Numismatics

Series 002 - Number 192 Monday- 11 December 2000

Scholarship Items on Ebay

by Marcus Turner

The first items that have been donated to the scholarship fund have been placed up for auction. All nine items were donated by John Wilson and are Christmas Club Checks. Given the subject matter I figured it would be better to sell them sooner than later. All nine auctions will close on the evening of Friday the 15th. The items can be found at:

<http://cgi.ebay.com/aw-cgi/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=524037207>
<http://cgi.ebay.com/aw-cgi/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=524037208>
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<http://cgi.ebay.com/aw-cgi/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=524039543>
<http://cgi.ebay.com/aw-cgi/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=524039620>

Updates will be given when other items are placed up for sale.

=====

Editorial

"May you live in interesting times." The old curse

could hardly apply better to any other time--and I am not talking about the Florida exercise. I am talking about MPC research and collecting. Everything continues to streak!

Research, notes, analysis, the market, everything is smoking. It is wonderful. Thank you for your help in reporting all of this.

Have a nice day!

=====

Mail Call

----- Hi Fred,
Good news about the MPC work. I will try to prepare something about the collection that I bought in 1967 that contained the first Unc. 471 \$5.00 that we knew about. While doing some other work I had occasion to look at one of French dealer Jean-Paul Vannier's lists (Sept.1982). He lists one of the British Military Authority's 1-pound notes with FRANCE overprint. In case you are collecting known serial nos. of these pieces, the illustrated one is no. 39Z000076. In the list he says he knows of 2 others- nos. 64 and 84. You don't see these around much now- not you ever did! Neil S.

Hello Neil,
Wow, the story of the 1967 471 \$5 will be great for the gram AND the book. I can hardly wait. Remember, I was there when you sold it!

Thanks for the numbers on the BMA FRANCE notes. These are good notes to record. Heck, they are just great notes.

Fred

Hello Fred,

Do not use this version of Vinson's letter in any further publication; it is riddled with typos and is also apparently missing a few words. If you got it into machine format by scanning and OCR conversion, it did not get cleaned up and checked. If it was keystroked, ditto. It needs to be checked word by word before being used again.

Is this the first place that the term military payment certificate was used?

Joe B.

Hello Joe,

Thanks alot for the commentary. Not only did I know that I could count on you, I was! I guess I was disappointed that you did not send a faxed (or email) correction. Drat. I read it word for word backwards and found that every category of error that you mention is there, 19 or 20 in all. Some were serious,

some trivial. Gramsters, if you want a "corrected" version sent in a future gram, let us know (it will help fill a gram.)

Since you brought it up, the original from which I worked was a photocopy of a carbon copy so it was not great, but not terrible either.

I have maintained capitalization and other matters in just as they are in the original even though we (and especially I) may disagree with some of it from our current perspective.

When I first read the letter, I was struck by how perfect it was long before word processors. I guess we should expect that the secretary of the Treasury would have great typists. It also occurred to me that most of the young people today have never seen a manual typewriter (or even an electric one for that matter). The one irregularity in the original was a little bit of typical poor alignment found in typing of the 1940s.

Your observation about the term military payment certificate is a good one. If this is not the earliest use of the term, it is one of the earliest. We will have some other early documents here in the gram soon, we can watch for an earlier use.

Fred

=====

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Chit booklet from HQ II FFV Officers' Open Mess-APO San Francisco 96266, 25/12/68, \$2 booklet (cover) with one each 5, 10, and 25c chits, \$35, Ian Marshall, confirm at iam@total.net.

MPC Series 521 25c CU, \$85, David Seelye, coinman@rochester.rr.com.

MPC Series 461 \$5, very strong EF, most would call AU I believe \$135. Confirm at fred@papermoneyworld.com. Thanks, Fred Schwan.

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MPC Gram

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World of Military Numismatics

Covering the Entire

Series 002 - Number 193 Tuesday- 12 December 2000

Multiprinting Surprise

by Joe Boling

All you guys who are gleefully chasing multiple printings of MPCs have another challenge: the multiple printings of the training notes that were used at Fort Benjamin Harrison to train finance and postal clerks. I don't well remember which of my trips to Fort Harrison resulted in my discovering the hoard of non-longer-used training notes in a closet of a little used building on post. I know it was not in my last tour there (1979-82). It must have been during my thirteen-week TDY in 1976, because in 1969- 70 (my first assignment there) I would not have had the same interest in these pieces as I did after getting to know Fred. In any event, I did find the carton of mixed types of training money, and picked out several sets of everything that was there. Having found these, I inquired further, and obtained a few more examples of the training greenbacks. On my last tour there, I was gifted with a shrink-wrapped brick of \$20 greenbacks (500 pieces), which I still have, unopened. To get to the point of this column, here are the

pieces that I have. More exist, of course; I was not paying much attention to the internal structure of the paper when I was assembling sets

(color of ink and color of paper was as far as I went--see the differences in the \$1 and higher denominations of AFS greenbacks below--I suspect that all existed in both papers). There is no easy way to discriminate among the various printings without side-by-side comparisons; suffice to say that this can act as a start point for a comprehensive listing of these ephemeral pieces.

Unless noted as diagonal, the visible pattern in the laid papers below is square to the paper dimensions.

Greenbacks (CCMPC page 142)

USAAGS 5c-10c-25c-50c-\$1-\$5-\$10 dull green on dark cream mottled paper

USAAGS 5c-10c-25c-50c-\$1-\$5-\$10-\$20 bright green on cream laid paper

USAAGS \$20 light green on white paper

AFS \$1 dull green on cream laid paper

AFS \$5-\$10-\$20 dull green on cream diagonal laid paper

USAFS \$1-\$5-\$20 dull green on white laid paper

USAFS \$1-\$5-\$10 pale dull green on cream laid paper

USAFS \$1 pale dull green on bright white laid paper

USAFS \$1-\$5-\$10 pale dull green on white paper that seems to "sparkle" when held to light

USAFS \$1-\$20 light green on cream coarse diagonal laid paper

USAFS \$5-\$10 light green on cream fine laid paper

USAFS \$10-\$20 bright green on white laid paper

USAFS \$5 bold green on cream laid paper

USAFS \$1-\$5-\$10 bright green on white paper that

seems to "sparkle" when held to light

Deutschemarks (CCMPC page 148)

Bundes Bank	1 pfennig green laid paper
Bundes Bank	5 pfennig pink mottled paper
Bundes Bank	10 pfennig blue laid paper (very pronounced pattern)
Bundes Bank	50 pfennig pink laid paper
Bundes Bank	DM1 blue laid paper
Bundes Bank	DM1 blue laid paper, pronounced pattern of 10 pfennig piece
Bundes Bank	DM5 yellow mottled paper
Bundes Bank	DM5 yellow laid paper
Bundes Bank	DM5 yellow laid paper, pronounced pattern
Bundes Bank	DM10 bright pink laid paper
Bundes Bank	DM10 pink laid paper, pronounced pattern
Bundes Bank	DM10 blue! laid paper, pronounced pattern
Bundes Bank	DM20 green laid paper
Bundes Bank	DM50 pink laid paper, counters 9mm tall (as are all other DM except below)
Bundes Bank	DM50 bright pink mottled paper, counters 6mm tall

French francs (CCMPC p149)

50FF dull blue laid paper, For Training Purposes Only
50FF blue laid paper, FTPO
100FF yellow laid paper w/out FTPO legend 100FF yellow laid paper, FTPO
500FF white laid paper w/out FTPO legend
1000FF green laid paper w/out FTPO legend
1000FF green mottled paper, FTPO
5000FF pink diagonal laid paper w/out FTPO legend
5000FF pink mottled paper, FTPO
10000FF blue laid paper w/out FTPO legend
10000FF blue laid paper, FTPO
10000FF light blue laid paper, FTPO

MPC (CCMPC pp144-50)cent 25mm square on buff card, uniface

5c yellow diagonal laid paper, no code

5c yellow laid paper, code AFPP 974 8/64 4M (Army Field Printing Plant work order 974, August 1964, 4000 copies)

10c bright pink laid paper, no code

10c pink diagonal laid paper, same code as 5c

25c blue laid paper, pronounced pattern

25c blue paper, same code as 5c

25c light blue laid paper, same code as 5c

50c green laid paper, no code

50c green laid paper, same code as 5c

\$1 green, laid paper, no code

\$1 green, mottled paper, no code

\$1 green, laid paper, code AFPP 974 8/64 15M [15,000 pieces]

\$5 pink, laid paper, no code

\$5 pink, laid paper (prominent pattern), no code
\$5 bright pink, mottled paper, no code
\$5 bright pink, laid paper, code AFPP 974 8/64 2M
[2000 pieces].

\$5 pink, diagonal laid paper, code AFPP 972 8/65
5C [500 pieces] w/COUNTERFEIT in open block letters across face and
back (in the plate), back inverted
\$10 cream laid paper, no code
\$10 blue laid paper, no code, inverted back
\$10 blue laid paper, code AFPP 974 8/64 35M [35000
pieces]. \$10 blue laid paper, code AFPP 972 8/65 5C [500
pieces] w/COUNTERFEIT in open block letters across face
and back (in the plate), back inverted

LOGEX money at some later date.

=====

Editorial

Technology got in the way of a timely gram today. Gram
delayed, gram denied? I do not know if Yahoo had
problems or if it was my machine? Or possibly the
operator? Anyway I guess we got it out.

=====

Mail Call

Dear Gramsters,

I received a letter from a William J. Domoracki in
1998 about him finding a large silver Vietnam 1973
Peace medal like one I bought at the 1998 ANA
Convention. But his was also engraved with "In
Service to His Country" and "William T. Shwab." He
wants to know more about why this commercially-made
medal was engraved to a likely military veteran and
anything more I knew about the medal.
I also own a smaller version of the medal but do not
know if there are other sizes and varieties of it. Mint America marketed this
medals and it is still in
business at 4401A Connecticut Avenue NW, Washington,
DC 20008 and its web site is www.mintamerica.com. I
suggested he contact them for further information
about its manufacture.

I went to Yahoo and looked in its telephone book for
William T. Shwab. There were only three in the entire
United States! The third was with a middle initial of
"G." in Massachusetts, so it is not him. But there
were two William Shwab with no middle initials listed
in Vermont. One of these guys could be him and since
the two states border each other, I am guessing all
three of them are related and spread out over two
states!

I know some of the MPC Gram readers also collect
medals related to the Vietnam War, so if any of you
know more about this medal and/or William T. Shwab,
please contact William J. Domoracki, 1230 Pendleton
Street, Apt. 7A, Columbia, SC 29201, and send a

courtesy copy to me at Howard@SEAsianTreasury.com. Thanks.

Howard A. Daniel III
The Southeast Asian Treasury

Hello,

This is a possible solution to Mr. Dori's problem. [Of wasted paper printing the gram.] Highlight the portion of the gram you want to keep; copy it; and then paste it to your word processor. After that you can edit the lines to fit your space. It takes a little time but it may be worth it for you.

Len H.

=====

Departments

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Ed B.
Harold MPCKid Kroll
Bill McNese
Marcus Turner
Larry Ski
Fred
PK6
Joel Shafer
World Wide Ventrues
John & Nancy Wilson
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Chit booklet from HQ II FFV Officers' Open Mess-APO San Francisco 96266, 25/12/68, \$2 booklet (cover) with one each 5, 10, and 25c chits, \$35, Ian Marshall, confirm at iam@total.net.

MPC Series 651 \$1 CU, \$33, David Seelye, coinman@rochester.rr.com.

Treat yourself for the holidays or tell your spouse to contact me for this great collection. This is a collection of seven different Allied military franc replacements! Here they are: flag backs, 2 franc AU, 5 fr nicer AU, 10 fr even nicer AU, CU to just about anyone, 50 fr technical VG, but overall more desirable than that, 100 fr f-vf with interesting serial number 00884040 (the plate note in WWII Remembered, page 280); France back, 50 francs ef except that the back is a little dirty, therefore vf but you will be excited to have this as a vf, 100 fr ef. I offer this as a collection for \$2100. Confirm at fred@papermoneyworld.com. Thanks, Fred Schwan.

Books of interest to MPC collectors from BNRPress@papermoneyworld.com.

World War II Remembered, the classic book, necessary in every library. Price is only \$69 postpaid. If you will send your order via email and mention the gram, we will send the book with an invoice. Thanks.

=====

Staff: publisher and editor:
Fred Schwan - fred@papermoneyworld.com;
assistant editor - Phil Goldstein
critic: Harold Kroll - MPCKid@papermoneyworld.com;
webmaster & technical advisor: Doug Bell - (Wiz): doug@papermoneyworld.com;
The Boss: Judy Schwan

=====

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MPC Gram 194
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MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>
Date:
12/12/2000, 11:40 PM
To:
mpcgram@yahoo.com

=====

MPC Gram

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World of Military Numismatics

Covering the Entire

Series 002 - Number 194 Wednesday- 13 December 2000

Registration errors on Series 692 Fractionals

by Doug Bell

As you probably know (even though it has never been published), the four fractional denominations of Series 692 can be found with poor registration on the face. It is most common or most obvious on the 10c denomination.

This situation exists on all four denominations and on the respective replacements although it has not been confirmed (that I know of) on all four of the denominations.

Fred wanted to do a serial number analysis for use in the new book and this might be helpful, but it is more difficult than it might seem. I have one of these errors sandwiched between two perfect notes. This makes it more likely that the error was caused by minor and most importantly intermittent shifting of the paper.

Nonetheless, I would like to hear from anyone with thoughts on this matter and reports of shifts. I have posted some scans that should be helpful in studying these notes. Contact doug@papermoneyworld.com.

<http://www.papermoneyworld.com/doug/692error.htm>

=====
Editorial

We missed the big storm that has been dominating the news (snow storm, not political storm), but I would hardly know it because I have been buried here in the office working on the new MPC book. Your many contributions will make for important additions to the book. Having said that, I must point out that there is still time for contributions or even suggestions! We sure do want to hear from you!
=====

Mail Call

----- Dear Gram Meister,

Many thanks to Joe Boling for sharing the info for the information on the "TRAINING " notes.

Raby Baby!

Dear Joe,

Good article on the Ft, Harrison notes. I have a minor

collection of notes used to train Special Forces paymasters being trained at Ft. Bragg, and another collection of notes used in wargames. I won't go into detail as these are just for fun, but some are:

Four different Banco Nacional de Costa \$5

People's Democratic Republic of Atlantica \$20

People's Committee for a Free Nation \$15

Republic of Pineland \$5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 500, and 1000. etc.

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MPC Gram 195 (corrected gram (link only))

From:

MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>

Date:

12/14/2000, 12:15 PM

To:

mpcgram@yahoo.com

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MPC Gram

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World of Military Numismatics

Covering the Entire

Project Turnkey

by Larry "Ski" Smulczenski

In Gram 178, Nick Shrier told the story of how for a short period of time he owned a set of notes that were printed for a contractor that was to build a huge air base in South Viet Nam. Unfortunately, while he was shopping an Atlanta area pawnshop, someone stole the items from his car. What a tragic loss. Anytime you lose a note; it's like losing a dear friend, but to lose a rare set of notes especially to have them stolen by someone that doesn't appreciate them, that truly would lead to many sleepless nights. I was familiar with Nick's plight as he wrote me about it several years ago after I wrote an article about the scrip issue in the M2C2 Newsletter. I think it would benefit a lot of our readers to reproduce that article so everyone will know -- " the rest of the story. About five years ago, a note described as "Turnkey Commissary Receipt Specimen \$1. Not valid after August 30 1967 SCBNCO. Blue and black, AU. This scrip was reported issued in Viet Nam and used there." showed up in a Smythe Auction. Somewhere in the past, I remembered hearing or reading about Project Turnkey. A look through my file of World War II Military Currency articles produced the piece I remembered. It was from an old issue of the SPMC periodical Paper Money and was written by Seymour Kashin. I had not noted the exact date of the issue. The following information has been taken from that article. Project Turnkey was the nickname for the Air Force effort in 1966 to build a jet fighter base in South Viet Nam at Tuy Hoa. All major construction prior to this undertaking had been run by the Army Corps of Engineering or the Navy Facilities Engineering Command. The Air Force Civil Engineers choose Walter Kidde of New York to design and build a two runway jet fighter base to house four squadrons of F-100 Super Sabre fighter bombers. B. B. McCormick and Sons of Jacksonville was retained as a subcontractor. Kidde was to build the buildings on base while McCormick built roads, sewers and runways. More than 700 U.S. civilians were part of the construction force. The U.S. Forces were using Military Payment Certificates in Viet Nam because the influx of millions of dollars in the Vietnamese economy would increase inflationary pressure. Kidde was directed by contract to develop a similar scrip system to pay their employees while they were deployed to Viet Nam. Contract personnel could draw a maximum of 5% of their pay in scrip on-site with the remainder sent to a designated stateside account. Kidde solicited bids for the design, printing and delivery of \$200,000 face value of a scrip issue. Three bidders responded with a contract awarded to the

low bidder, Security-Colombian Banknote Company. The scrip issue was printed in six values: 20,000 each of the 5, 10, 25 cent notes: 12,000 of the \$1; 8,000 of the \$5 and 14,000 of the \$10 notes. However, in November of 1966, the Air Force reversed itself and directed that Project Turnkey employees be paid by the current series of MPC-Series 641. An order issued to destroy the Turnkey Commissary Receipts was carried out in August of 1967. Reports are that a few examples of the issue escaped destruction. The Turnkey notes differed from the MPC series in that there was no 50-cent value and all values were the same size. The paper used was like the paper used for MPC with red and blue planchettes. The note auctioned by Smythe can be seen at

<http://www.papermoneyworld.com/mpcgram/thurski4.jpg>

This note is a specimen and could have come from the archives of the printer or from the files of Kidde Construction. The notes, had they been issued would have been as much a part of MPC collecting as are the Thai and Korean Coupons. Nick's loss was indeed a tragedy.

=====
Editorial

Well, I certainly spoke too soon about the show. We were hit hard on Wed afternoon and evening. Tuesday may be closed down around here. That means that it will be much more difficult to get the gram printed, carried to the post office, and otherwise completed.

=====
Mail Call

Editor:

Great article by Joe Boling on the "Training" notes. Have a few in my collection, but have not done a lot of research on these notes. This info should be useful in determining issues and the various notes within each issue. Thanks Joe.

Have a GREAT MPC DAY!
Kid

=====
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MPC Gram 196

From:

MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>

Date:

12/15/2000, 7:41 AM

To:

mpcgram@yahoo.com

=====

MPC Gram

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World of Military Numismatics

Covering the Entire

Series 002-Number 196

Friday - 15 December

Can anyone give us 10?

by Fred Schwan

The latest tally on the MPC replacement survey has 2390 replacements (issued, nonspecimen). The current edition of the MPC book lists exactly 2000. I sure would like to find 10 more to have a nice round 2400 serial numbers for the list in the new book.

Now is the time to send in those numbers that you have been holding out or just have not gotten around to reporting. There are also some missing position numbers and grades on the current list so your help with any of those will be greatly appreciated. Heck, it is not a bad idea to just send in your current complete list of replacements so that it can be reconciled with the master list. You may send your reports to the gram. Thanks.

R. A. Medina, new techie, makes donation

Many of you know R. A. Medina. He is a wonderful collector of military money. He is also famous among coin collectors for discoveries over the past 40 or more years. He has lots of stories that we hope that

he will share with us like using Allied military 1000 yen notes in Okinawa.

Some of you newer collectors do not know him because he has been a hold out. I has avoided email. Well, R.A. has come out of the closet! He is now a gram subscriber and emailer!

Now that he is "online," he has stepped forward to support the ANA scholarship fund (see departements) with a substantial cash donation! To paraphrase a now-inactive vice president "every dollar counts" so consider joining RA and contributing to the scholarship fund!

=====

Editorial

Of course we are planning lots of new features in the new MPC book. We will also correct a few errors and "problems" that we have known about for a long time. More interesting today are some problems that I only found in the middle of the night today! The most interesting of these is a replacement that was illustrated in the replacement appendix, but not listed in the survey! You can bet that I fixed that (actually, I found that it was in the current list). I also found that two replacements that were available for illustration last time were not illustrated. That means that we will have another first--illustrations of every known replacement (by type, not printing).

Actually, of those two that were not illustrated last time, one was only sort of available. I owned it, but could not find it. The dard thing hid itself in my office. It too Ski to find it on a vist here!

=====

Mail Call

----- Dear Gram,
Great info by Joe Boling on the MPC training certificates! I have noticed some differences in the training certificates in my collection and wondered why. These make up a very interesting part of my collection.

Frank C.

Dear Gram - Looks like I may not be able to get to this years Fest as I have already made arrangements to do the ANA Spring Show in Salt Lake and I don't think there is time enough to drive from there to the place the Fest will be held. I will really hate to miss the Fest. Any suggestions?
Paymaster
Dear PM,

Well, there is not much doubt in my mind! You MUST attend the fest. How can we get along without the ol paymaster?

I am sorry about the investment in Salt Lake City, but I think that in every way you will be better off at the fest. Probably you will even make more money!

Fred

Dear Gramsters,

Not only was I the pay officer for our unit/s in Vietnam, I was heavily involved in the confiscation of money used for drug transactions. Quite a few evidence notes were even initialed by me. The story is probably too long for publication here but I will send it to Fred for inclusion in the new book.

I plan on attending the Fest and I would like to tell my story then. Writing it all down now will take some time.

Thanks, Bill McNease

=====

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MPC Series 651 \$1 CU, \$33, David Seelye, coinman@rochester.rr.com.

Great MPC replacement available from a collection that just "came in." Series 692 \$10, nice VF, but with staple holes a left side (not bad). This is a real interesting note, it is serial number E00032007 (position 5 of course). This means that this note is from sheet number 7, very interesting. Inquire for price at fred@papermoneyworld.com. Thanks, Fred Schwan.

=====

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MPC Gram 197
From:
MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>
Date:
12/16/2000, 10:23 AM
To:

mpcgram@yahoo.com

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                        MPC Gram
=====
World of Military Numismatics                                Covering the Entire
-----
Series 002-Number 197                                Saturday - 16 December
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Data, data, give us more data!

by Fred Schwan

The following letter brought up more points than seemed appropriate for the letters section.

"The article 'Can anyone Give us 10?' by Fred Schwan in MPC Gram 196 raises a long time question of mine. Pardon my ignorance, but why is the discovery of serial numbers and production numbers such an issue? Does the Bureau of Engraving keep this information a secret? And if so, why? Am I missing something?"

When the Bureau printed MPC (or supervised a contractor printing it) the entire project was considered secret. No collectors were obtaining data contemporaneously.

During the manufacturing records were kept with great detail so that every scrap of paper would be accounted for. Of course the final shipments were also carefully recorded. However, during the course of this the quantity of replacements issued was not recorded. It simply was not important to the BEP or to the customer how many replacements were included in the final shipment. Indeed, that is part of the beauty of the replacement system. If the quantity of replacements printed was recorded at the time, those data have been lost.

Actually, quite a few records do exist at the BEP about the early series. The Bureau has been accommodating about providing information, but in an interesting twist more information is available about the older than the newest series. To make the matter even more difficult, until recently the Bureau made no attempt to consolidate and maintain historical records. Interesting and important records are still found within the bureau itself. The good news is that the Bureau now does maintain such records.

Just so that we do not feel discriminated against, the Bureau has basically never maintained records on how many replacements were issued. This is true for most types of paper money printed there. Frankly, I think that this is a good thing, because it gives us mysteries to work on!

Finally, even if we had the perfect records on how many replacements were printed and issued, we still would not know how many survived so we would have our survey anyway!

=====
Editorial

Everyone has been just wonderful about sending in final data on replacements! This weekend is an ideal opportunity for those of you who have not to dig out those notes and send them in! Thanks.

Mail Call

Dear Gram,

Recently obtained a 461 5.00 with serial number A03647452A. It is over 1.0 million larger than the previous high serial number A02587201A. There is still a large gap between the 3.6 million high number and the 5.4 million delivered. Makes me wonder what the high number was that was issued. One of the mysteries of life, I guess.

TomK

Dear Tom,

Well, perhaps not a mystery of life except to the extent that MPC IS life for many of us. One of the reasons that Phil G started the survey was to come up with questions like yours! Answers will be a bonus!

The survey is still relatively immature, but it is certainly taking shape. Several collectors have started collecting the highest known serial number for each issue. Those guys are shooting at a moving target which puts them in a league of their own I think.

Thanks for writing.

Fred
Dear Gram,

I enjoy reading the MPC Gram. It gives every day a lift. I learn something interesting with every issue. Keep up the good work
Warner T

Mr T,

Thank you very much for the warm words. We are humbled. The success of the gram has mostly been because of the participation of the readers.

Gram staff

=====
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Nice uncirculated MPC series 611 \$1, \$111. Confirm at fred@papermoneyworld.com.

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From:

MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>

Date:

12/17/2000, 12:41 AM

To:

mpcgram@yahoo.com

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MPC Gram

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World of Military Numismatics

Covering the Entire

Series 002-Number 198

Sunday - 17 December

Mericle Collection in Book

The Marv Mericle collection will be featured in the new edition of the Comprehensive Catalog of Military Payment Certificates. The Mericle collection is one of the outstanding collections of regular-issue MPC ever formed.

The use of this collection is the initiation of a planned new feature of the book. Each edition will feature notes from a different collection. Although this adds greatly to the time and effort required to create the book, it also adds to the book by documenting the great collections and the great notes. It is also in keeping with the developing interest in the pedigree of notes.

Mericle is well known among collectors. Obviously he is a serious and keen MPC collector--he certainly is that. He is also a researcher and leader. He is the keeper of the master list of fractional 651 notes in collections. He is a member of the board of directors of the Central States Numismatic Society and the editor of the M2C2 newsletter.

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Editorial
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Wow, when I asked for reports of replacements, I was hoping to nudge the survey to the 2400 hundred mark since it was a 2386. I have just spent most of the day posting and reconciling the reports that have come in and we are up to 2463 so I am wondering if we can make a push and get it to 2500?! A few more reports have been promised and those will help, but we probably still need YOUR report. Remember, even if you have reported your replacements before, we like to have followup reports in order to verify every little bit of data and possibly fill in some holes.

Thanks a million for your cooperation and effort.
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Mail Call
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Dear Gram,

I wish to thank all of you people that make me getting this Gram possible! I have enjoyed everyone and wish to continue to enjoy them in the future, too! I especially enjoy any more coverage of types of MPC, JIM Notes, P.I. Guerrilla Notes of W.W.II, and all info regarding Leper Colony Notes & coins!! I hope to hear more about the above items, if it would not be a major problem?? Once again, keep up the good work, Gram!!! Oh, and have a "Merry Christmas," too!!

John Beck

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Departments
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WWII numismatics seminar at ANA Summer Seminar 2001
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Military Numismatists
c/o Marcus Turner
8103 East US Highway 36
Suite 163
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Ed B.
Doug Bell
R. A. Medina
Harold MPCKid Kroll
Bill McNese
Marcus Turner

Larry Ski
Fred
PK6
Joel Shafer
World Wide Ventrues
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Chit booklet from HQ II FFV Officers' Open Mess-APO San Francisco 96266, 25/12/68, \$2 booklet (cover) with one each 5, 10, and 25c chits, \$35, Ian Marshall, confirm at iam@total.net.

MPC Series 461 5c CU, \$65, David Seelye, coinman@rochester.rr.com.

Nice uncirculated MPC series 611 \$1, \$111. Confirm at fred@papermoneyworld.com.

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Subject:
MPC Gram 199 (corrected, see editorial)
From:
MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>
Date:

12/18/2000, 9:30 PM

To:

mpcgram@yahoo.com

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MPC Gram

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World of Military Numismatics

Series 002-Number 199

Monday - 18 December 2000

Covering the Entire

Major MPC Discovery Made

A collector has made an important discovery. It will be announced in Friday MPC chat at 11pm Eastern. A followup story will appear in the gram, but if you went to hear it first, be in chat on Friday at 11pm Eastern.

WWII Era Navy Chits

by Tom Koch

One of my interests in WWII era military numismatics items is chits. One of my specific areas of interest is Navy chits relating to the Pacific Theater of Operations.

My father participated in this theater on the USS Alaska (CB-1). Many years later I frequented many of the same locales that he did during my 1967-1971 participation in the South East Asia War Games on USS Annapolis (AGMR-1). I was born in Annapolis, Maryland at the Naval Academy so I guess it was appropriate for my first ship to have that name.

I have obtained two new chit items:

1. A partial 5.00 booklet Commissioned Officer's Mess U. S. Naval Repair Base - San Diego 36, California.
2. A 5 and 10 cent chit from Commissioned Officers Mess - Camp Kidd, San Diego 37, California.

I am trying to determine the exact location of the 1st item. I suspect it may have been at or close to the current 32nd St. operating base.

The second item comes from a camp initially established at Balboa Park to be used for training medical personnel. (Admiral Kidd was one of the admirals killed at Pearl Harbor.)

Does anyone have additional information on the location of the 1st item?

What is the significance of the San Diego 36 and the San Diego 37?

=====
Editorial
=====

I sure goofed this one up! If you received a gram earlier (or more likely TWO copies of gram 199), you were cheated out of an editorial because I got distracted and did not finish it. However, I sent out the gram before I realized that. Then a loyal gramster reported receiving two copies of the gram so I think for the second time in two (or three?) days I sent two copies to the first half of the mailing list and none to the second half!

Then to make matters worse I made a horrible mistake and worked at cleaning up my office and misplaced the newspaper article that was the basis of the editorial! I could lose my job over this! Hm, that might not be all bad.

Anyway, I will partially tell the story that I tried to start. A few months ago I mentioned about the curise line sailing from Hawaii to Fanning Island to beat the US lasws about sailing to sucessive US ports. Well the same think was in USA Today again last week along with a web site and toll free number. Neither were real helpful, but I full intended to pursue the matter before completing the editorial. Now I can do none of that because I cannot even find the paper. When (if) I do find the paper, I will follow up and report. There have been some complaints about the location of MPC Fest II, so I was thinking that we might want to have it at Fanning Island!!!

=====
Mail Call
=====

----- Dear Gram,

David E. Seelye of the TheMPCMan.net asks if anybody has any information on the "Seamen's Overseas Service" type bills- I'd like to know, too.
Mark Coinmaster

Dear Mark (and Dave),

You and everyone would like to know. We will publish at Gram Extra with the news when you find it!

Editor

Hello Fred, just this afternoon (mon.) received the latest CAA catalog.
An MPC replacement is Lot #321- a 10c 481, ser. no. D00178919, pos. 23. Hope it's a new one.

Neil S.

=====
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MPC Series 461 50c CU, \$165, David Seelye, coinman@rochester.rr.com.

WWII (era) chits from Club Copacanana, Camp Philip Morris, somewhere in France: 2 franc and 5 franc chits with color copy of the cover at \$18 each (\$36 pair),

only two pair available. fred@papermoneyworld.com.

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12/19/2000, 7:28 AM
To:
mpcgram@yahoo.com

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MPC Gram
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Entire World of Military Numismatics

Covering the

Series 002-Number 200 Tuesday - 19 December 2000

Serial blocks on a well-known CRB note

by Joe Boling

In March 2000 I had the opportunity to study a large group of the Central Reserve Bank of China 200 yuan "US Army Coming 1945" notes (SB1252) (in Bill Henderson's stock). The serial number on those pieces is constructed as A123456BC. He had the following blocks; can anyone add to this list?

?#####AA
none observed

?#####AB
A, C, D, E, F, L, S, U, V, X

?#####AC
A, B, C, D, E, G, H, J, K, M, P, Q, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z

?#####AD
none observed

?#####AE
D, F, K, M, N, Q, R, T, V, W, Z

?#####AF
C, F, G, H, K, M, P, Q, R, U, V, W, X, Z

?#####AG
A, B, C, D, E, F, G, J

=====
Editorial

Someone recently asked me if I had thought that the gram would last this long and be so successful when I

sent out number one.

Well, I knew that I could be stubborn enough to put out 200 or even 2000 issues. However, much more important than that, I did not anticipate the depth and breadth of the support and participation in the gram. It has been wonderful.

Our two columnists have been wonderful and are about to be joined by a third (and still some spots open). The letters have been spectacular and unexpected article have been remarkably regular.

At times we have been backed up with news and features! I could hardly believe it.

I guess that the basic reason for all of this is that we have the most wonderful hobby imaginable!

=====

Mail Call

----- Hello Fred,

I've begun to work on the story of my early interest in cataloging and collecting MPC, and I'll try to send in something in a week or two, perhaps earlier. Just wanted to give you some replacement numbers: In my US currency book there are two: a 50c 541 F00692563 and \$10 681 C00360008. That one came from Gary Snover probably while they were still in use. I recently saw another 10c 481 D00075807, pos. 10, VG or so. I also have 2 others- 5c 611 H00232910, pos. 30 (I think this came from the large group) and 5c 681 C00465345, pos. 59. Hope this helps.
Neil S.

Dear Neil,

Thanks for the nice letter. I know that most of this was not intended for publication, but several aspects were so important that I could not leave them out. First, many do not know that you were the first to include MPC in a book on US paper money. That was an important milestone in the history of MPC collecting.

The other really important comment was about obtaining the replacement from Gary Snover when it was current! That places both of you in the history of MPC collecting! That 681 \$10 replacement was illustrated in three different numismatic books. Eventually it was sold to a fellow who was collecting notes that were illustrated in books (not just MPC). He really liked this note that had been in three different books. I eventually lost contact with that fellow. I do not know what happened to him or his collection.

Finally, you gave a nice hint about the important story that you are creating for the book. We will probably let gramsters have an advance peak at this (at least in part). I look forward to this story and know that everyone will love it!

Fred

=====

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Doug Bell

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Harold MPCKid Kroll

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confirm at iam@total.net.

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MPCgram <mpcgram@yahoo.com>
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12/20/2000, 7:43 AM
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MPC Gram

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Entire World of Military Numismatics

Covering the

Series 002-Number 201

Wednesday - 20 December 2000

Personal and "Collective" Milestones

by Bill McNease

I am happy to announce that I have been able to complete my set of 94 regular notes for my MPC set. The last note I needed I got from Harold and it was a 541 \$5. This all started when I was the Pay Officer in Vietnam (1971-72) for Series 692. Of course I didn't know at the time that MPC was collectable. For that reason, I brought home two 692 1.00s. I immediately taped them in an album.

I still have one of them, tape marks and all.

Over the years and throughout my travels, world-wide, I have collected crisp, uncirculated currency from all the countries I have visited. About ten years ago I started to collect US notes, mostly the large size. I then realized that if I was going to ever complete a collection of anything, I would have to specialize. With the then top number of 94 notes, MPC was an attractive choice.

I started my search in earnest about 5 years ago. I was an early user of Ebay and I was able to get a great start and some really good prices back when Ebay first got going. I bought the MPC book from Fred and talked frequently with Phil and done some trading with both of them.

I currently have a little over 87% (82 notes) in my regular (94 note) collection that are UNC. My goal is 100%. I have 6 of the highest reported serial notes, one pack of 661 1.00s, one evidence note (story to be included in the new book), two counterfeit notes and two sets of the 691/701 notes, including a 691 20.00 replacement.

I am missing about 11 notes from the multiple printings. I need the following to make the 94 note set UNC.....461, 471, 481, 521, 541 and 591 \$5 and \$10s in each series. Lots to trade or barter with so give me a call.

I have to say that in all of my extracurricular activities that without a doubt the people I have met in the MPC group have been the friendliest and most honest that I have come in contact with. Thanks to you all for your help to get me this far. Good luck on your collections and happy holidays.

=====
Editorial

You will not likely believe this. Today I was feeling a little sorry for myself because I had to spend most of the day crunching numbers of MPC replacements! I caught myself just in time to count my blessings. If one went looking for a job as "MPC replacement serial number cruncher" it would be a very hard job to get and lots of people would like to have it so I decided to count my blessings and compare some more numbers!

=====
Mail Call

Dear Gram,

Come on, Tom, if you are old enough to have participated in the SE Asia wargames you are old enough to remember postal zones. They preceded ZIP codes. San Diego 36 is a postal zone; find a stamp collector who specializes in California postal history and he will be able to tell you where SD 36 and SD 37 were. Fred, what was supposed to be past the twelfth word of the editorial today? And this crap about new information being available at 2300 Friday is just that--crap. Either tell us the news, or don't mention it.

Joe

Dear Joe,

Please, please, please, count to three, take a deep breath and try REAL hard to.....smile.

Fred

Hi Fred,

I believe you asked for serial numbers of replacements notes. My one and only replacement note is a Series 692 five cent note in VF. The serial number is E00506196. When I bought it, I did not realize it was a replacement note and I guess the dealer didn't know either by what he charged me. Lou P

Dear Lou,

Thanks alot for the report. Once again this is a report that would not normally be published, but you had a nice story to go with it and since it was your first contribution to the survey, we thought that it would be nice to also make it your first contribution to the gram!

The story actually continued with an interesting twist. Your replacement was previously reported so it apparently had been identified as a replacement at some time, so you not only got a good deal, but were really lucky! Timing is everything!

Editor

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Nice uncirculated (choice, better than average
centering, but not perfect, only one available) MPC
series 541 25c, \$50. Confirm at
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=====

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Fred Schwan - fred@papermoneyworld.com;
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critic: Harold Kroll - MPCKid@papermoneyworld.com;
index manager: Ed Beaman
webmaster & technical advisor: Doug Bell - (Wiz):
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MPC Gram

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Entire World of Military Numismatics

Series 002-Number 202 Thurski - 21 December 2000

Covering the

Hide your notes, Ski is on the road

by Larry "Ski" Smulczenski

Over the river and through the woods to grandma's house we go&.

We'll in our case it was grandma and grandpa going over the Mississippi River and through the swamps of Louisiana to George W. Bush Country to visit our kids and grandkids for Christmas. The horse was about 200 of them under the hood of the White Buick Regal Sleigh and fortunately for the driver that isn't too lively and quick anymore, the snow was several hundred miles north where you folks that are more accustomed to driving in it can brave those hazards. Anyway we arrived in Austin safe and sound yesterday

morning and look forward to greeting Santa there.

Had to stop

in San Antonio on Tuesday to see good

friend Ric Medina at the Lone Star Coin Shop. Even though the shop was bustling with Christmas shoppers, Ric and his son, Ric Jr. always have time to stop and swap war stories with old friends that walk in. Ric will always get out his albums of World War II notes (of which there are many) and show off, and sometimes gloat over his recent acquisitions. This time he couldn't wait to show me a nice French AMC note that opens to reveal a propaganda message inside. The message was one that is not currently listed in World War II Remembered. This is the type item that Herb wrote about a couple of weeks ago in the gram.

Ric also had a

nice crisp Tangier note (SB 102)

which he recently acquired. In addition, he had to show me some nice chits that he came across that made my mouth water. One of these was for a haircut and other was from the American Red Cross. The interesting part of the Red Cross item was that it listed the cost in French Francs, Belgium Francs, Dutch Guilders and German Marks. I thought this was nice in that gives some idea what the exchange rate was at the end of the war. The item I found most interesting

however, was a

document which allowed a soldier to bring back to the states "captured material trophies." This document listed a "Jap wallet and some French and English coins." The coins were long gone but the wallet remained with the document. The wallet was cloth, and pictured among other things a Japanese battleship superimposed on a rising sun flag. With all the souvenirs brought back from the war, this is the first document I've seen allowing the material to be brought back.

As you can imagine our visit as usual was

interesting and well worth the stop. Hope you all have a great holiday and Santa brings you the things for your collection that you have been wanting.

=====

Editorial

MPC maven Ed Beaman and I had a chat (email exchange) based upon his letter in Mail Call (below) and I am excited to make an announcement.

Ed has agreed to become the gram indexer! He will create and maintain some sort of index of material that has appeared in your gram. The exact (or even approximate) format, appearance, function, distribution, and other matters have not been determined.

This is where you come in. Ed needs your ideas as he develops the Gram Index. If you have technical ideas on how/where to do this, he wants to hear it. If you have editorial ideas of what to list and how, he wants to hear it. In fact, we all want to hear your ideas, so send them to the gram!

Welcome aboard Ed!

=====

Mail Call

Dear Editor,

My thanks and congratulations on the 200th gram..."simply, amazing." I'm sure my thoughts are shared by many.

I read and absorb the information daily. But, with so much great stuff, comes a question. I'm having a difficult time, going back and finding the specific article, or piece. I was wondering if there are any ideas out there, in "Gram Land."

There must be an easy way to access all of this information, quickly. I am open to any & all suggestions. Heck, Fred.....maybe you need a "File Clerk."

Respect,
Ed Beaman
Dear Gram,

I have ben watching your latest MPC Grams and have enjoyed them very much. I learned quite a bit by buying your book on MPCs and found a note at a show yesterday that I want to report.

5 Yen, series 100 (type B) H00108288A 2 heavy
vertical folds and minor handling, call it VF-XF Looks very nice from the face.

Also a question if you please: I have 2 series 100
ONE YEN with different looking serial numbers than the
5 YEN and from a CC block. It that how they were or
are these bad??

Tim K.

Dear Tim,

Nice replacement, good find. Too bad that it is not an
A of course. The "funny" look of the C-C block is
because those notes were printed by the Japanese
Finance Ministry Printing Bureau as opposed to the US
BEP that printed the others. This is explained in
World War II Remembered. I do hope that you have a
copy of this book too. Sorry if this sounds like an
advertisement!

Fred

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Series 002-Number 203
                        Hanukkah 2000
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AMC 1000 yen notes were common

by R. A. Medina

In the spring of 1953 Uncle Sam sent me First Class (Troop Ship) to Okinawa. After 17 days out at sea we arrived at Taiwan on my birthday March 31st. A few days later, we docked at Naha. After taking a much needed shower I converted my "stateside" green for MPC & AMC. Not being numismatically inclined at that time I proceeded to enjoy the pleasures of that small island, by spending all of my money. Of particular interest were the 1000 Yen notes--at that time they were worth approximately \$8.00 each. When I realized that for one note I could hire a taxi for a full day, for another note I enjoyed the company of a pleasant female for an afternoon and for one more, all I could drink and eat for that time frame. Needless to say I soon learned to carry a bundle of 10 to 20 notes! Now this many years later I have been known to spend a couple of grand to purchase one note--so when the collecting habit hit, my fortunes soon dwindled! Collecting has had a consuming effect on my life. My best friends are military money collectors and we compete (for the notes we need) at all shows and across the world, through catalog offerings, or through personal trades.

Seasons Greetings to All----Enjoy your habit!!!
IMPORTANT NOTICE--ANNOUNCEMENT POSTPONED

The important announcement that was scheduled for tonight in chat has been postponed. The postponement was caused by bad weather and unanticipated travel arrangements.

The announcement will be made soon in the gram and/or in chat. MPC Gram and papermoneyworld.com are very sorry about any inconvenience.

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                        Editorial
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We may have to cancel the Fest! Marv Mericle was in
Fest city for the past 24 hours and I think that all
of the story telling, trading, swapping, and MPC fun
possible has been used up--not!

Marv was here, and we did have a great time, but there
is still plenty left! As announced in the gram a few
weeks ago, the Mericle collection is going to be
featured in the new MPC book. He delivered the
collection here for imaging. Of course he has a great
collection, I have seen it before, but he also had
surprises for me and for the book! Most of these had
to do with some wonderful new MPC vignette
illustrations. They will make great additions to the
book but are not easily featured (by me anyway) here
in the gram.

Hopefully, we will be able to get back to his visit in
the days to come.

=====

Mail Call

----- Dear Tom,

SD postal zone is now zip code 92136 & is located
north of the 32nd St. Naval Station. Postal zone 37
may have been LaJolla (which now has the zip code
92037). Normally the end of the zip code is the old
postal zone.

Ken Berger
San Diego

=====

Departments

WWII numismatics seminar at ANA Summer Seminar 2001

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identity but also has a bank account! Any further
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Chit booklet from HQ II FFV Officers' Open Mess-APO San Francisco 96266, 25/12/68, \$2 booklet (cover) with one each 5, 10, and 25c chits, \$35, Ian Marshall, confirm at iam@total.net.

MPC Series 461 5c CU, \$65, David Seelye, coinman@rochester.rr.com.

MPC series 521 \$5, a duplicate from the Virginia collection sold a few months ago, fine, a pleasant note \$200. Confirm at fred@papermoneyworld.com.

=====

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MPC Gram

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Entire World of Military Numismatics

Covering the

Series 002-Number 204

Saturday - 23 December 2000

More RVN MPC Recollections

Howard A. Daniel, III

I served in Viet Nam from January 1966 to August 1970 and December 1971 to January 1973. I was already an MPC collector and set aside CU versions of most certificates, and some replacements for my collection, while they were still circulating. But I also added many of them to my collection after conversion day (C-Day) when I could buy them for ten cents or so on the dollar at my favorite bars and houses of ill repute. The bar and house owners could not convert them and usually threw them away after a week or two of trying to find someone to find a way to convert them. All of my "extra" high-grade certificates during those years were sent to a dealer with the last name of Wilson in the upper Midwest. I cannot remember more about him, and I am away from my files right now, so this is all I can give to you about him at this time. I am sure some of the older folks remember him. I sold the certificates to him at twenty-five cents on the dollar and he was VERY happy to receive any and all I could send to him. During my tours I was often a "piastre conversion officer" at the pay table and converted MPC to piastres. It was supposed to be done instead of piastres, but I could not convince the Finance Officer

about it because it was in his rules and regulations. The troops were often upset with my slow conversion process because I was always looking for good dong notes and MPC replacements. Numismatics was not on their minds when they wanted local money! During the time the Series 692 was circulating, I can remember visiting a nearby American Express on MACV Annex two or three times a week to acquire a CU \$5.00 certificate. It was amazing to me that I never found one before I departed in January 1973. This was also a tough certificate to find in circulation and I never saw a CU in Vietnam! Things got a little busy just before my departure, and I forgot to save one in any condition, so I had to add one to my collection after the price was quite high, and I am still looking for the "right" CU to complete my collection.

Many years later after the war, while on vacation in Florida, I ran into an old acquaintance friend of mine from Saigon who was a major player in the black market. He did VERY well in the black market and made enough to never have to work another day after the war, but he has started several legal businesses and is now doing well in them too. Somehow we started talking about MPCs, and I mentioned how I sold "old" CU MPC to a dealer in the States for twenty-five cents on the dollar. He exploded!!

He was often stuck with several hundreds of thousands of dollars in MPC after C-Days. He went nuts that he did not know there was an outlet for them at any price. He said I should have told him. I told him that drinking a beer with him and being connected to him in any way where he was make money from my advice in his illegal activities, would end my work in a very sensitive area, and likely end my military career. He said I was doing something illegal too, but I was not. I did check the regulations surrounding MPC and mailing "old" MPC back to the States and there was absolutely nothing illegal about it. He was so mad at me, he told me to never talk to him again and he stomped off.

I hope the above is a little bit of interesting old MPC lore for the troops to read.

=====

Editorial

Open letter to Howard Daniel

Dear Howard,

That is a great article above. I am quite sure that the dealer was Jim Wilson who was one of the great pack rats of all times. I am quite sure that he died quite a few years ago and his inventory was sold, but

I cannot remember any of the details.

I think that Ian Marshall told me a story about visiting this fellow in the extreme wilderness of Wisconsin. Ian told of having to use snow shoes, fighting off hungry wolves and attacking moose to get to the fellow. However, he might have been exaggerating or I might have remembered it wrong! Hopefully, this will get Ian to tell that story.

I would like to use your story for the MPC book along with some other personal tales. I can use it more or less as it is or you can revise it regarding Jim Wilson and or some of the following comments.

I think that you may have overstated your case about your innocence with your friend.

I was in Vietnam 1971-1972. We had plenty of unc 692 \$5s, but I was too stupid to bring any home (you and I made a fine pair!). Later from the United States, I decided that I wanted some 692s and asked an old school chum (more than a chum, I was best man in his wedding) to send me a BUNDLE of each. He procrastinated but attempted to bring me a bundle of each instead of mailing them.

I will save the details for another time, but he was found with the bundles and an over zealous military policeman seized them. Eventually the MPC was converted for him, but I did not get my MPC. Those bundles were my retirement fund!

As a result of the above, I researched the regulations rather thoroughly which I why I challenged your statement. I am sorry that I do not have a 1973 copy of the MPC regulation, but in the current MPC book we have the 1970 version that was probably in force at the time. The regulation is on page 238 of the book.

I will not comment on my interpretations of the regulation and your actions as described above in the hope that you will comment!

Howard, do not misunderstand me. I am sure that I would have done the same as you did and felt equally pure. This is meant as a mind game.

Finally, I ask you to become a gram columnist. Most of the stories that you have written for World Coin News could be modified just enough to emphasize the military money parts and would be great for the gram.

Heck, you could probably just tell us that you modified them and we would never know (but would still enjoy). In either case you would get nice recycling out of your work!

I have been trying to think of a cute name to call your column or the day in which it appears, but I cannot. Possibly you can fill that blank in too, or, better yet, we can get help from readers.

Well, I sure have thrown out a lot here. I hope that there was something of interest, and I certainly look forward to your future contributions either as a

columnist on irregular contributor.

Fred

=====

Mail Call

----- Hello Fred,

Just to add to your number work- do you know the book by Michael Schone on the money of occupied Germany 1945-49? Anyway he has a 50c Series 461 replacement illustrated on p. 199- serial no. is A00032102, pos. 5, and looks to be in VG or so grade. Just in case you overlooked it...

Neil S.

Do I laugh or cry?! Ok, thanks.

Fred

Dear Editor,

Belated thanks for signing me up for the MPCgram. I hope to be able to contribute something every now and then.

Pearl Harbor and/or Navy veterans may be interested in a neat certificate I picked up at a flea market last week for the grand sum of \$4.00 (including the frame):
<http://www.kenbarr.com/JPGS/phny.jpg>
<http://www.kenbarr.com/JPGS/phctr.jpg>

If the Gram advertising permits mentions of eBay offerings, I'd appreciate a pointer to my sales closing Thursday 12/21: eleven lots, starting bids \$5 to \$200+, including a low-end 471 \$5 and a choice 651 \$10. eBay seller id "ken@kenbarr.com".

Dear Ken,

Thanks for the comments and the links. Gram advertising does not allow pointing to ebay (or other sales because we want you to sell here in the gram), but we were going to make an attempt at humor by denying your request while we were pointing it out, but then I noticed that the sales have closed so the joke is on us! However, you did get a little plug for your seller name. We really would like to have some of your material for sale here in the gram. The best way is to send a list of items in (not attached to) an email. We will then run them as space allows as they say (we always have space, but do not always have energy!)

Editor

=====

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Nice uncirculated MPC series 611 \$1, \$111. Confirm at
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MPC Gram

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Entire World of Military Numismatics

Series 002-Number 205

Sunday - 24 December 2000

Forcasts needed

On January 1 the gram will feature predictions, hopes, aspirations for 2001 and beyond. In general these should relate to our collective collecting passion, but you may also use it to go on record about important personal goals. (Use the gram and peer presure to help you stop smoking, lose weight, or get

in shape.)

=====
Editorial

I know that everyone will be jealous. Marv Mericle hand delivered a copy of the new M2C2 Newsletter here to headquarters. As usual, it is full of interesting things including a plug for the Gram. This is a great circular approach that we are using here.

If you have not sent a long self addressed envelope to Marv for your newsletter, send it to M2C2, Box 26, Prairie Creek, In 47869-0026. It is a good idea to include a little story, question, comment, or something with your envelope.

I was very pleased that Marv reported that he recieved a large number of requests for the printed newsletter after the notice in the gram. I also said that gram readers were particularly generous with the contributions that they sent! It is absolutely not required nor even requested, but donations are greatly appreciated. The M2C2 Newsletter, just as the Gram, is not only not for profit, but does not generate ANY revenue! They are services, by, of, and for the community.

=====
Mail Call

For Indexer Ed, Suggest you list MPC Gram # / date and then its main articles by topic/author. Leave out the routine items such as calendar, scholarship list, etc.

Regards, webfootbob
Dear Fred,

The Gram is great and your contributors are keeping it quite interesting to this small-time collector. Many thanks.

In the December BNR, D. Seelye suggested in his mpc advertisement that you might have a story to tell regarding a set of uncut sheets of 3rd Series Thailand issues you once tried to buy in Memphis. If no one has asked yet, will you kindly consider recalling this in the Gram sometime? As we've never met I can only guess, but I would imagine this is another tale your friends and fellow collectors would enjoy. Especially as you are known to have become, by all recent accounts, a very tenacious bidder/buyer (ie. the inverted back error in Cinncinnati).
Happy holidays to you and your family.
Ort Cowles

Editor

Your requesting of Howard A. Daniel III to be a gram columnist is a great idea, I second this request. Found the article very interesting, look forward to reading more.

Mpckid

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MPC Series 461 5c CU, \$65, David Seelye,
coinman@rochester.rr.com.

Nice VF MPC series 681 \$20, \$30. Confirm at
fred@papermoneyworld.com.

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MPC Gram

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Entire World of Military Numismatics

Series 002-Number 206

Covering the

Christmas 2000

Christmas numismatics commentary

by Fred Schwan

Nancy and John Wilson are the king and queen of Christmas numismatics. Since I forgot to ask them to write an article this year, I hereby ask them to write an article for one year from today!

Nancy and John collect Santa Clause on bank notes and untold and amazing Christmas themes on paper money and related items. Their collection is astonishing.

I reviewed the MPC book and found that there are no Santa Clause vignettes there so the pickings are a little sparse for an article. However, there are ARE a few Christmas items for collectors of military money.

The most commonly found documents that might interest us are printed menus, invitations, and seasons greetings from, to, or by individuals and units during World War II (or Korea or Vietnam). Unfortunately, these are not numismatic items so they do not fit directly in our collections. However, sometimes in personal groups containing the above you might find a short snorter created on Christmas day (or eve).

I thought that there was such an item illustrated in World War II Remembered, but if there is, I could not find it. In addition to the Wilson article for next year, if you can find any of these Christmas short snorters, we would certainly like to publish them here in the gram.

=====

Editorial

I hope that you will excuse me if I digress from the official subject matter of the Gram and take this opportunity to wish every gramster a joyous holiday season.

=====

Mail Call

Dear Editor,
If you have any information available about the March 9-11, 2001 MPC Fest, I'd appreciate having it. If I can make arrangements with my employer, I probably will attend.

Thanks,

Donald A. T

Dear Don,

Schedule the days off and plan on a great weekend.
More details will be published here in the gram in the

next few weeks. Stay tuned.

Editor

Dear Editor -

How about using the mpcgram to establish several trading forums? Several items that come to mind as being commonly traded are JIM items and chits.

For example, a collector of Philippine JIM pesos may want to complete a block number set for SB 2227a (1 P) for which there are 81 pieces. One way to accomplish this might be to trade excess items in their collection for excess block numbers in other collections.

In the area of chits, while I don't advocate splitting up complete chit books; I have on occasion traded chits out of partial officers' mess chit books to other collectors when the "quid pro quo" chit items are of interest to me.

Maybe you could get a JIM trading coordinator and a chit trading coordinator. I would volunteer to help in some capacity.

Happy Holidays

TomK

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Covering the

Entire World of Military Numismatics

Series 002-Number 207

Tuesday - 26 December 2000

Russian Naval Base at Cam Ranh Bay

by Howard A. Daniel, III

Since 1978, the Soviet Union, and now Russia, has leased a portion of Cam Ranh Bay in Viet Nam. The Russians first used Cam Ranh Bay when their fleet stopped there before engaging the Japanese at the Battle of Tsushima in the Russo-Japanese War.

After most of the U.S. Forces departed from Cam Ranh Bay in 1973, and the last contingent left in April 1975, the Vietnamese allowed the Soviets (Russians) to return. They built a large intelligence listening post there, repaired and used many of the large docks for their warships, and repaired and used one of the runways for their long-range bombers, recon planes, and a few fighters. Hundreds of Soviets worked on this base, and except for Vietnamese with special passes, no one except the Soviets could enter their base.

When the Cold War ended in the early 1990s and the Soviet Union broke up, the Russians continued to use the base, but with much less activity, and it is now a rare sight to see a Russian naval vessel at a dock

and/or aircraft on the runways. But the large intelligence listening post is operating seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day with a full staff of about 30 personnel!!

For many years I have been hearing rumors the Soviets, and now the Russians, used a special scrip there and maybe chits and/or tokens. The special scrip was supposed to be a version of their international travelers' check in various denominations and with a special overprint much like what was used in Afghanistan. But I have heard no details concerning the possible chits and/or tokens.

I have corresponded with former Soviet military personnel, and current collectors and dealers in Russia, about Cam Ranh Bay, but no one has found anything for me, to include a publication or regulation about them.

As many of you know, in a communist and/or former communist state, everything is considered a state secret until a higher up says it is releasable. I strongly believe I am running up against this state secret mania and that is why I am not given any information or illustrations of what circulated, or currently circulates, inside Cam Ranh Bay from 1978 to date.

If any of you come across something about Soviet/Russian Cam Ranh Bay checks, chits and/or tokens, please contact me at Howard@SEAsianTreasury.com.

=====

Editorial

Yesterday was even more historic than I had thought. It was the first day in the history of the planet that there was a solar eclipse on Christmas day when a gram was delivered!

Remember, we need your forecasts for the Jan 1 Gram.

=====

Mail Call

Dear Gram,

Well, at least we have a year to respond to your request on a Christmas "sort of" related item to military numismatics. Yes, we do have some menus, short snorters and etc., related to the military. We even have a Holiday Greeting with engraved signature of Patton. We will get you something for next year and possibly let one of you make copies of them for an attachment, etc.

In any instance we want to wish all of you a great Holiday Season, and best wishes for a Healthy, Happy,

Prosperous and Fantastic 2001. Hope to see some of
you at the FUN show soon.

Yours in Numismatics,

John and Nancy Wilson

=====

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MPC Series 591 50c CU, \$255, David Seelye,

coinman@rochester.rr.com.

Nice uncirculated MPC series 611 \$1, \$111. Confirm at
fred@papermoneyworld.com.

=====

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Fred Schwan - fred@papermoneyworld.com;
assistant editor - Phil Goldstein
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Entire World of Military Numismatics

Series 002-Number 208 Wednesday - 27 December 2000

Maloy hits lottery--again!

Kevin Maloy suggests that if you have a state lottery pick the numbers 769 and or 768,992. At MPC Fest I, Maloy produced a replacement 661 25c with serial number 768,992. That serial number matched the serial number of the 661 \$20 replacement that Harold K. had at the fest! Matching serial numbers! Schwan

(and others) had been trying to identify matching serial numbers for a long time, but had only been able to do it with serial number reports. It was a major find, or so it seemed at the time to not only confirm a matching pair, but to also have them both "in attendance" at the Fest. The notes when home together by the way.

Now Maloy has done it again with serial number 00000769 on his 641 25 cent replacement. That note matches the only reported 472 \$5 replacement which has not only been reported, but is absolutely confirmed because it is illustrated in the current edition of the MPC book.

The two notes remain in two collections, but the owners are woking on an adoption program!

=====

Editorial

Work continues to go well on the MPC book. It is dominating my life, but the end is in sight. There are some interesting new items and even some controversial treatments of some of these, so it will be interesting to see the reaction when the book comes out. If you have any hopes of getting your contribution included, send it soon.

Remember, we need your forecasts for the Jan 1 Gram.

=====

Mail Call

Dear Editor,

"MPC GRAM" Getting To Commercial ?

Have recieved a few complaints about the ads being published in the "GRAM" and most recently, reference to links for auction items.

Would like to hear feedback from the "GRAM" readers on thier thoughts and ideas. Send all "GRAM AD" feedback to mpcgram@yahoo.com or MPCKID@papermoneyworld.com

Regards,

The Critic

Dear Critic,

Thanks for writing. This sounds like it could be a good topic for discussion. Of course we have our opinion here at HQ, but we sure would like to hear from the field before making any radical statements.

Fred

The Christmas item you were looking for in WWII

Remembered is on page 320. Neil Shafer illustrated an identical one, except from a DIFFERENT sender (R. R. Blessman, EcM2c), in his column in the 26 December Numismatic News.

Joe

Dear Joe,

Thanks for the pointer. I was sure that we had such an item, but just could not find it. Now, I have to figure that the error was in indexing! Drat.

It is an interesting item, I suggest that everyone have a look at it.

Fred

=====

Departments

WWII numismatics seminar at ANA Summer Seminar 2001

Not only does the scholarship fund have an official identity but also has a bank account! Any further donations should be paid to the order of "Military Numismatists Scholarship" and sent to:

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8103 East US Highway 36
Suite 163
Avon, IN 46123

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World Wide Ventrues

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MPC Gram

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Entire World of Military Numismatics

Series 002-Number 209 Last Thurski - 28 December 2000

Covering the

More XMass Numismatics

by Larry "Ski" Smulczenski

Well, my wife and Santa were really good to me this Christmas. I found three nice items to add to my collection under the tree. The highlight was a Second Series 50c Korean MPC Coupon. It will only grade a strong fine, but any of you that have been searching for notes from the Korean or Thai Series know how tough these items are to come by. I believe that a few of them have recently been liberated from Korea or Viet Nam, but no where near enough for all the collectors of MPC.

The second item is one that I had not seen before. It is an Army Meal Ticket issued to a WAC that was traveling by train from Cincinnati to Houston and escorting four other troops. I assume that the other four were also female and were recruits that were being shipped to basic training in Texas. The reason I say this is that the Form (which is a War Department Quartermaster Corps Form No.464) was issued by the 1572nd SU, WAC Recruiting District. The item is dated 15 Aug 1944. Surely a WAC Recruiting District would not be providing escort and meals for male enlisted members. Another interesting part of this Form is that it states that the cost per meal would not exceed \$1 per meal when served in the dining car of a railroad train and 75c elsewhere. You couldn't buy too many Big Mac's with that could you. Of course in 1944, you couldn't find a Big Mac to buy anyway. But it is a neat fiscal item from World War II. You can see these two items by clicking on the link

www.papermoneyworld.com/mpcgram/thurski5.jpg

My third gift is a nice

addition to my War Bond

collection and gives me something to research. It is a "10 Bucks" note issued for the Klamath Victory Parade which was presenting "The Victory Arcade" This event took place on Monday, October 29th, 5:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. It further states that "Our Quota \$740,000 Series E Bonds" and "Lets go over the top tonight". No year is given as part of the date. I assume that it is 1945, because of the liberal usage of the word victory. Also we know that the last War Bond Drive was known as the Victory Loan and ran from Oct 29, 1945 to Dec 8, 1945. Could be that this was the kickoff for the Victory Loan drive in Klamath. BUT, where is Klamath? I know of a Klamath Falls in Oregon, or was there a Klamath County that included

Klamath Falls? Anyway, it will give me something to do on these cold winter nights.

I hope Santa was as good to you all as he was to me. I thought about Santa over this Christmas Holiday. John and Nancy Wilson have a great collection of notes depicting Santa Claus, but I can't think of a single World War II note that in any way refers to the jolly old elf. Joe and Fred show a picture of a postcard in World War II Remembered that illustrates Santa dropping War Bonds from his sleigh. Look at page 397 to see this item.

I have in my collection another neat piece of ephemera, which doesn't picture Santa, but does denote Christmas with the stockings all hung by the chimney with care in hopes that St. Nick soon would be there. Mine is an ad from THE GENERAL TIRE AND RUBBER COMPANY promoting the purchase of War Bonds. Dad is tucking bonds into everyone's stocking while Mom, whose pose looks a lot like Betty Grables hides bonds behind her back for Dad. You can see it at the link www.papermoneyworld.com/mpcgram/thurski6.jpg Hope you all have a Happy New Year.

=====
Editorial

Everyone is doing a good job of sending in comments on the commercialization of the gram and the predictions/thoughts for the new year. If you have not done this, there is still time. Get your thoughts in electronic order and send them in!

=====
Mail Call

Dear Gram,

It's great to see ads in the gram, it gives everyone the opportunity to find a note they are looking for. It might be your first of that note or even an upgrade of that note. Who would not prefer a CU note to a Fine note????

I always enjoy seeing what might be for sale in the gram.

Regards, webfootbob

Dear Web,

Thanks for your comments. More letters on this subject will follow in the next few days.

Editor

=====
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MPC Series 591 50c CU, \$255, David Seelye,
coinman@rochester.rr.com.

Nice uncirculated MPC series 692 50c with a slightly interesting serial number E06001780E, average centering, CU, \$27.50, nice 661 50c, also with a slightly interesting serial number, B08673541B, (what is special about the number?!)gem CU except that it has a sad and unfortunate corner fold \$18. Confirm at fred@papermoneyworld.com.

=====

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Entire World of Military Numismatics

Series 002-Number 210 Friday - 29 December 2000

My Early Years of Collecting and Cataloging MPC

By Neil Shafer

It was probably around the mid-1960s when my attention was drawn to the MPC series. By that time I had gathered a few scattered pieces and became aware of their special significance. In fact, so important did they become in my mind that for the Fourth Edition 1970 of my Guide Book of Modern United States Currency (Western Publishing Company, 1969), I prevailed on my

boss to allow me to expand that book by including a full listing of all known MPC issues. In the introduction to that edition, I said the following: Expansion of interest in a particular field sometimes means an increase in the importance of closely related material. Such is the case with the group of U.S. Military Payment Certificates which are now cataloged in their entirety in this volume. I have felt for a long time that their inclusion was an inevitable occurrence in the normal advancement of the whole field& Looking back on it now, I know I was totally correct in this move.

The section contains several pages of introductory text including general characteristics and specifications about MPC that I thought would serve to acquaint new collectors with this field. The actual catalog section follows, and it covers issues from 461 through then current 681 (along with 651). Of course, the values assigned to the various issues then in light of today's heightened market and breadth of knowledge makes them look totally absurd. But believe me, at that time it was a new collecting area, there was no particular demand for any of them, and values were nominal. Remember, that was 30 years ago friends!

Besides, I had some first-hand experiences with purchasing some of the earlier sets, in a group of items that came my way quite unexpectedly. The year must have been 1966 or 1967. I was working at Western Publishing Company (Whitman) and had been there since September of 1962. My interest in paper money of all kinds was continually growing, especially since we were involved with the possible purchase of Dr. Arnold Keller's manuscript on a catalog of paper money of the world. I was the chief go-between for the company, and it was a constant learning process.

I had also been doing some articles on paper money in our monthly magazine, the Whitman Numismatic Journal. Perhaps it was because of that kind of work, I am not sure. In any case, I was asked if I would help to evaluate a collection of world currency, probably for estate purposes- I am not totally sure about that right now. I was told I would have no chance of purchasing anything, as that was something out of the question. Please evaluate- that was all.

The collection consisted of a run of various kinds of notes, some that I was familiar with, others that required some extra work. It was a portion of the dregs left over from the Jim Wade Collection, notes they felt could not be easily sold on the market at that time. As I recall, there was a full set of the 1941 Panama notes in Specimen and a substantial group of military and World War II notes of all kinds. Many

were in sets, uncirculated or nearly so as I remember them. Among these were at least two full sets of MPC, Series 461 and 471! (There may have been others but I cannot now recall them).

It was a thrill just seeing all this good material, and I eventually finished the job of evaluating. The total for the whole pile of notes I examined came to a whopping \$600.00. That figure was turned in, and the whole matter was finished. Or so I thought.

About six or eight months later, I get a totally unexpected letter from the individual handling the disposal of this collection asking if I was interested in purchasing the lot! Naturally I was overjoyed, but there was a big hitch to this offer. Along with the notes were some U.S. gold coins that had to be sold as well, to the tune of over \$4000.00. I was in absolutely no position to buy anything near such a large amount, so I asked some friends in the business if they could assist. I finally got an affirmative answer, but by then the lot had also been offered elsewhere. After some discussion, I was reassured that I would probably have first refusal on the notes once the coins were gone.

I don't exactly recall when/how/if those coins ever went to Racine but here's what happened to the paper. I had a phone call from another potential buyer; he and I discussed the possible ways of splitting the collection with each perhaps taking a certain amount. It turned out that all he really wanted was that Panama Specimen set, and if I would let that go without complaint he would put in \$400 out of the \$600 evaluation, meaning I could have all the rest for the grand sum of \$200.00!

Well, that was how it finally worked out, and the notes less the Panama set were shipped to me. I went through them quickly, and found that while they were basically the same as what I had seen previously, there was now a Ming note of China included with the group! How that ever came to be there and not the first time I saw the notes I'll never know.

I retained the major part of those notes for a long time, including the two sets of MPC. Finally I broke them up, and when I perceived that a very strong market had developed, I decided to sell the best piece of MPC I had. It was the \$5.00 of the Series 471 in fully uncirculated condition (though close-margined at the top), and it went to one of the greatest collectors of his time, Amon G. Carter, Jr. of Ft. Worth, Texas. The price was a laughably small fraction

of its present value!

In closing, I need to mention one more aspect of the coverage I provided in the U.S. currency book that has recently taken on a much higher profile. While doing research at the Bureau of Engraving, I came across some facts about the number of printings for some of the MPC series. Records showed the multiple printings took place for only two issues as follows: Series 481, four; Series 521, three. All the rest were apparently made in a single printing. So the idea of multiple printings is nothing new.

=====
Editorial

Yesterday was a frustrating day on the book front. I spent way too much time revising a file only to realize that the file was an already obsolete one thus nullifying the substantial work that I had done. I would love to blame the computer, but the truth is that it was the fault of the operator.

Remember, we need your forecasts for the Jan 1 Gram.

=====
Mail Call

Ski and readers,

Consulting a perpetual calendar, 29 October was indeed a Monday in 1945. There is a Klamath County, Oregon, but there is also a town of Klamath on the northern California coast below Crescent City.

Joe

Dear Gram,

Concerning advertising, I think anything should go until there is a "problem," then we can look at that "problem" and fix it. Right now, I think the MPCGram should expand as MPCGramers send in stuff. It is much like a clearinghouse and I like seeing everything there for now.

Howard A. Daniel III

=====
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identity but also has a bank account! Any further donations should be paid to the order of "Military Numismatists Scholarship" and sent to:

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MPC Gram

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Covering the

Entire World of Military Numismatics

Series 002-Number 211

Saturday - 30 December 2000

COLLECTOR MAKES IMPORTANT DISCOVERY

By Harold Kroll

It had been announced that the last note needing to be found for the MPC Multiple Printing notes would be the Series 472 2nd printing .50 cent note: In "MPC Gram" issue #122, from September 22, 2000, All Multiple Printings Reported, Fred Schwan made the comment, that based upon documents on file at the Bureau of Engraving and printing, more than 432,000 Series 472 .50 cent notes were destroyed. Although this group was not identified by printing or serial number, and based upon the circumstantial evidence, it was likely that all of the second printing notes were destroyed. Therefore it was decided that all Multiple Printing notes had been reported.

On Friday, December 8th, 2000. I was looking at a

group of notes that was for sale, as I looked through the 20 or so pieces, first looking for any replacement notes, of which there were none, secondly looking for specialty notes, with again no luck, and not recognizing any high serial numbers, I passed on the group of notes. For some unknown reason, the notes came back to mind and I decided I had better go back and take another look at them.

Well, let me tell you, I was "STUNNED" to say the least, as I found the Series 472 2nd printing .50 cent note: serial number: C04035139C, position number: 1. How could I have missed such a great note the first time I looked at the group?? I was beside myself for a few days and could not keep from bursting the news to someone. Finally after deciding to do such, I contacted another MPC multiple printing collector & friend: Phil Goldstein - IWANTMYMPC@aol.com, and I discussed this note with him to make sure I was not wrong in my findings. (Reference Phil's Website at: IWANTMYMPC's Military Payment Certificate, Military Currency & Numismatic WebPage for Multiple Printing information and Serial Number breakdowns) Phil about went through the roof when I told him of the note, in fact he actually became quite ill and did not want to discuss it any further at the time, said goodbye, and hung up the phone. (It is one of two remaining notes he needs to complete his multiple printing set of 157 notes).

At this point I was a little let down, and still not sure if the note was what I thought it to be, as a few things still needed to be answered. Was this a counterfeit note? Possibly a raised note from a lower denomination? A good copy of a note, or&? Later that evening, Phil got back in touch with me about the note, stated he was feeling better, and wanted to know what it would take to get the note from me. I told him it was not for sale. After threatening my life, (several times in fact!) among several other things, (but most of all, being extremely proud that I found the note), we got down to the business of confirming the authenticity of the note. At first, we could not get the position number to work out right, but that problem was finally solved, and the position number worked out with serial number.

We checked the note for planchettes in the paper and that checked out. There was no evidence the note had been tampered with to raise from a lower denomination, so that was ok. There was no indication that it was a pieced together note, and we ruled out that it was a copy of a note. Compared to several examples of 1st printing notes and could find no differences there either.

After all the checking, we feel, it is indeed a

genuine Series 472 2nd printing 50 cent note. I went out of town for a few days, and Phil contacted Larry Smulczenski about the note and discussed all the things that we had thought about to use for verification on the note. Larry was also very excited about the new discovery, as he wrote the first story on the Series 481 multiple printing notes. It is a very fine article, and everyone should read it. He opted to hold his opinion until he could examine the note himself, but felt that the note was more than likely authentic. At first I wanted to keep the discovery under wraps and hold announcement of this new discovery for "The Fest II" or as its been dubbed, "Next Fest," March 9/10/11 2001 in Port Clinton, OH. There is a new MPC book in the works, slated for delivery by the Fest event, so the news had to be released so it could be published in the new book. I'm still very excited about finding this note and being able to share such a GREAT find with the MPC collecting community, and of course adding it to my collection.

=====

Editorial

The announcement of the second printing series 472 50c note is exciting news. I will try to provide the supporting data concerning this note in the next few days. To me this discovery is all the more exciting because it is a note that we did not even know about two years ago (in spite of what Neil said yesterday). Furthermore it was found by a keen collector in the traditional of junk box finds! Treasure hunting lives!

This discovery was is the one that was scheduled for announcement in chat. It seemed to me a wonderful opportunity to have people participate in the announcement. That announcement was canceled because of a schedule problem and because of the criticism of the idea. I am sorry for any inconvenience that this caused.

In spite of the criticism, this seems like a good use of our new collecting tools: announcement of a news event in the Gram, then the event in chat. However, we certainly welcome your additional thoughts (and yes, criticism, of this approach.

This is your last reminder to send in your forecasts for the Jan 1 Gram.

=====

Mail Call

Dear Gram,

I agree with Harold's comments regarding gram getting "too commercial."

By the time I get done looking through all the sales

ads, I am tired. If it gets worse, I'm afraid, I'll have to start doing to the gram, what I do, with rest of the commercial spam I get...

That magical button marked DELETE..

I recommend one gram a week with a classified section. If that works for Sales, it would also work for Want Lists for collectors.
Happy New Year,

Phil
IWANTMYMPC

=====

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MPC Series 472 25c CU, \$180, David Seelye,
coinman@rochester.rr.com.

MPC Series 641 \$10 with flipper serial number (the number is still a number when held upside down) f-vf, \$22. verify at fred@papermoneyworld.com.

=====

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Entire World of Military Numismatics

Covering the

Personal Viet Nam Reflections

by Howard A. Daniel III

I arrived back in-country in November 1971 straight from Heidelberg, Germany, but I had a 30-day delay in-route leave in Thailand built into my orders. A few hours after landing, I was on my way to Bangkok, to everyone's amazement. When I returned a month later, I was shuffled off to the replacement depot on Long Binh a couple of days before Christmas, as I believe, as punishment, and not sent to my unit. The day after Christmas, I was picked up by my unit down on Tan Son Nhut AB.

My first few weeks were learning my job very quickly then jumping in with both feet with everyone else to do our jobs. The job was to zero out every one of the remaining U.S. Army aviation units and depots in Vietnam. This required people in the field inventoring everything, entering it into our computers and comparing it to what was supposed to be there, then finding a place to ship existing stuff to the Vietnamese who needed it, then out of country to our Allies. Some of it was not wanted by anyone, and we had it dumped into the South China Sea. The really non-valuable stuff was dumped into some of the many huge quarries between Saigon and Bien Hoa/Long Binh along Highway 1. This stuff and from other units was steadily taken away by civilian Vietnamese to use for their purposes.

As Fred suggested, I read the MPC Reg at the back of the MPC book. I cannot remember if the JAG officer in the Hqs MACV Legal Office was reading this Army Reg and/or a MACV Reg when he gave me his opinion. But his reply to me was something like "it would not be illegal to send back invalid MPC to the States. He did not use "no longer legal tender, but I do seem to remember the word "invalid" was in his reply. It has been over thirty years since I had my conversation with this officer, but I am pretty sure he told me the MPC I wanted to send back could no longer be spent, could no longer be converted to the current MPC and something about it going into the collector arena and not to be reintroduced into MPC/financial channels.

As for the sources of my MPC, he said something about it being as valuable as wallpaper to my sources and he himself had observed some old MPC glued on the wall in a bar, and because it was worthless, I was just sending worthless (wall)paper back to the States. So when I wrote in my article that I was not doing

anything illegal, I was basing it on what the JAG Officer told me. If he was wrong, then I was wrong. Now for Mr. Wilson. I do have a few pieces of paper from him. The key is a light yellow 3x5" piece of paper with "A Quickee Note from Jim Wilson" printed across the top and "House of Hobbies, Minong, Wisc. 54859" in small print below it. Then he typed "Dear Howard:-/CAN YOU SELL OR TRADE ME/ANY MILITARY PAYMENT CURRENCY/Ship all you can with best price/JIM."

I cannot find anything on the what I charged him for the old MPC but my strongest memory is that it was 10-25c each over my cost plus postage. The paper is undated, but it had to have been mailed to me sometime in early 1972. As for the lack of CU 692 \$5 MPC. It had to have come in-country to Saigon and processed somewhere through Hqs MACV. Why I did not ever know of this office, and not visit it, is beyond me. As a collector of MPC and already looking for information about Southeast Asian numismatic material, I should have been looking for and saving paper, regs, etc., about MPC too.

I do remember regularly going to the American Express Banking Facility on MACV Annex on a regular basis looking for \$5's because my workplace at Hqs 1st Avn Bde was only about two to three hundred meters from it, and just across a road from MACV Annex on Tan Son Nhut AB. I do not remember going to anywhere on Tan Son Nhut AB for them, and cannot remember why I did not check over there because I visited the very large AF BX there about once a month. The 1st Avn Bde decided which aviation group was to stand down on what dates. We usually had about a week to take care of each large group of aviation units and it's depot(s). If we did our jobs ahead of schedule, we took a day or two off, then started on the next group.

It was a hectic schedule and as the war was closing at the end of 1972, the pace was faster, so I had fewer days for personal tasks. Then there were several large offenses by the NVA and our units were needed to assist the Vietnamese rather than leave country. As the last unit/depot was completed in November or December 1972, we started packing up our mainframes and arranging to ship and accompany them back to the States. But there was much higher priority cargo all over the place, so we sat around most of my last month there. Phung was the daytime (12 hours) shift supervisor in this unit. There were five of us NCOs and three officers with 125 or so Vietnamese. I was the last NCO to arrive in December 1971, then all of our enlisted men were sent home and replaced with Vietnamese. In October, I asked Phung to marry me and we were married on December 14. Our boss, Major Norman Winter, gave me a three-day pass (can you imagine that in Vietnam?) for our honeymoon in the Unisys villa

(one of our mainframe's company's headquarters in Vietnam) in Saigon. Her visa processing was very slow in the States and it was getting clear that she would not ship out to the States before me.

Then the Army discovered I had not attended a couple of military ADP schools over most of my career and I was scheduled for my first class toward the end of January 1973 at Fort Harrison, IN. This bumped me up to flying back with the first computer(s) and the other guys would have to wait. The first available space for two computers was on January 10, 1973 on a C5A. Two of us climbed on the plane as the computers were loaded because we were part of the manifest to guard them. Our C5A could not unknee but it could not stay on Tan Son Nhut AB because the NVA would mortar it overnight.

We took off with the wheels only about halfway up and sparks flew as we took off. They radioed ahead to Clark AFB in the Philippines that we had an emergency landing with the wheels only halfway down. They foamed the runway, but there was still a huge shower of sparks out behind the plane as we landed. The base's firemen were around the plane and foaming it within seconds and we did not catch on fire.

SFC Jim Flock and I headed for the NCO Club and promptly got drunk. It took three days to fix the plane (and we stayed drunk), then Jim's computer was off-loaded onto another plane and flown to Hawaii and I stayed on the original C5A with a destination of Dover AFB. We stopped in Japan on the way. After landing at Dover AFB , I was quickly on my way to Fort Harrison via commercial means.

Phung arrived in Chicago in February and I took a day off from school and picked her up and drove her down to the apartment I had rented for us.

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Editorial

Lots happening on every front: books, FUN, research and holiday schedule. There is no way to keep up. If you watch the news carefully in the next 48 hours, you might catch a glimpse of Port Clinton. At the new year we lower our sacred symbol--the Walleye in the town square. The has received national media attention in recent years so watch for us. I will be the one wearing the Fest T shirt!

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Mail Call

Hi Fred, If one watches the History channel enough the implications are that we knew that the Japanese fleet was heading due East and that FDR more or less allowed this attack on Pearl Harbor to get backing for his declarations of war...

Cheers, Colin

Dear Editor,

I like the Gram ads, and would like to see more use of this valuable purchasing and possible trading section of the Gram. Thanks Frank C.

Departments

WWII numismatics seminar at ANA Summer Seminar 2001

Not only does the scholarship fund have an official identity but also has a bank account! Any further donations should be paid to the order of "Military Numismatists Scholarship" and sent to:

Military Numismatists
c/o Marcus Turner
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Avon, IN 46123

THE UPDATED LIST OF SCHOLARSHIP BENEFACTORS 11/22/00

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Neil Shafer

MPC Fest II

MPC Fest is the annual feast of MPC. After some difficulties of coordination we have not changed the dates and tentatively scheduled 9-11 March 2001 for MPC Fest II. If these dates cause a problem, please write the gram immediately.

===== Post/Base Exchange

(PX/BX/NEX) Dump your dupes! Your classified advertisement for items for sale will be run here for free. Send your ads to the gram. This service is for everyone, most humble dealer or most advanced collector. The point is to make the gram more interesting. Send in a list of items for sale and we will list them here in the gram. In all cases confirm your order via email first.

MPC Series 472 25c CU, \$180, David Seelye,
coinman@rochester.rr.com.

MPC Series 641 \$10 with flipper serial number (the
number is still a number when held upside down) f-vf,
\$22. verify at fred@papermoneyworld.com.

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